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IIP GROWTH AT 2-YEAR HIGH OF 6.7% IN NOV ON ROBUST MANUFACTURING

Factory output, based on the Index of Industrial Production (IIP), grew at 6.7% in November, driven by the manufacturing and mining sectors

STRONG GROWTH ON BACK OF GST CUTS

The Goods and Services Tax rates were cut on a host of consumer items to boost demand and consumption. This led to a piling up of manufacturing orders to take advantage of the GST rate reduction. The data showed that the manufacturing sector's output grew by 8%, up from 5.5% in the year-ago month. Mining production rose by 5.4%, against 1.9% a year earlier |**P13**

METALS, PHARMA BOOST MANUFACTURING

- "The growth is led by manufacture of basic metals, fabricated metal products, pharma and vehicles," the National Statistics Office said
- In manufacturing sector, 20 of 23 industry groups recorded growth
- The data also showed that power production contracted by 1.5% in November 2025 compared to 4.4% expansion in the year-ago period

11.9%

THE HIGHEST IIP GROWTH RECORDED IN RECENT TIMES. IT CAME IN NOV 2023

CHENNAI ▪ MADURAI ▪ VIJAYAWADA ▪ BENGALURU ▪ KOCHI ▪ HYDERABAD ▪ VISAKHAPATNAM ▪ COIMBATORE ▪ KOZHIKODE ▪ THIRUVANANTHAPURAM ▪ BELAGAVI ▪ BHUBANESWAR ▪ SHIVAMOGGA ▪ MANGALURU ▪ TIRUPATI ▪ TIRUCHY ▪ TIRUNELVELI ▪ SAMBALPUR ▪ HUBBALLI ▪ DHARMAPURI ▪ KOTTAYAM ▪ KANNUR ▪ VILLUPURAM ▪ KOLLAM ▪ TADEPALLIGUDEM ▪ NAGAPATTINAM ▪ THRISSUR ▪ KALABURAGI

SC stays its Nov 20 fiat on Aravallis, to set up high-powered committee

Bench says its previous order invited applications and pleas questioning the 100-metre rule

SUCHITRA KALYAN MOHANTY
@ New Delhi

Security officials outside the Supreme Court in New Delhi Monday | SHEKHAR YADAV

Interim win, say environmentalists

Environmentalists objecting to the new definition of Aravallis welcomed the Supreme Court's move on Monday. Environmentalist Bhavreen Kandhari said, "This judicial intervention was much needed... the committee which is going to be formed should have ecologists, environmentalists and not just bureaucrats." Neelam Ahluwalia, founder member of the People for Aravallis collective, termed the directive of Monday as an "interim win".

THE Supreme Court on Monday put its November 20 order that accepted an elevation-linked defintion of the Aravallis on hold after environmental groups raised serious concerns that the new definition could lead to unbridled mining in one of the world's oldest mountain ranges.

A vacation bench headed by Chief Justice Surya Kant and comprising justices J K Maheshwari and Augustine George Masih said the court's November 20 order had "critical ambiguities" that needed to be cleared up. The bench proposed forming a panel of experts to study the issue more carefully.

"We direct that recommendations of the committee and findings of the Supreme Court shall remain in abeyance till then. The case to be taken up on January 21, 2026," said the three-judge bench. The court had on November 20 accepted a uniform definition of the Aravalli hills and ranges and banned fresh mining leases. The SC had also accepted the recommendations of a committee of the Environment Ministry that had recommended that "Aravalli Hill" be defined as any landform with an elevation of 100 metres or more above its local relief, and an "Aravalli Range" as a collection of two or more such hills within 500 metres of each other.

> **A committee of experts will be constituted to study environmental impact and assessment of the recommendations made by an earlier committee that comprised of bureaucrats** — CJI-led SC bench

In its order on Monday, the court said, "It seems prima facie that both the committee's report and the judgment of this court have omitted to expressly clarify certain critical issues."

The court said that the ministry's definition might create a problem where protected areas become smaller while unprotected "non-Aravalli" areas become larger.

The bench issued notice in the matter and requested the Attorney General R Venkataramani to assist the Court, including in the composition of the expert panel.

The problem started because Delhi, Haryana, Rajasthan and Gujarat each had their own definitions of what counts as Aravalli Hills and Ranges, leading to loopholes that allowed illegal mining. **P9**

2017 UNNAO RAPE CASE

SC stays Delhi HC order suspending Sengar's life term

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ New Delhi

STRESSING that even the "finest judges are prone to errors" and judicial scrutiny is part of the system, the Supreme Court on Monday stayed a December 23 High Court order suspending the life sentence of expelled BJP leader Kuldeep Singh Sengar in the 2017 Unnao rape case. The top court said Sengar shall not be released from custody.

A vacation bench of Chief Justice Surya Kant and justices J K Maheshwari and Augustine George Masih, which was hearing the CBI's plea challenging the high court order, said "substantial questions of law have arisen in the matter that require consideration". The court issued notice to Sengar seeking his response in four weeks.

The bench said it was conscious of the fact that ordinarily, when a convict or an undertrial was released on bail after an order passed by a court, such order shall not be stayed by it without hearing that person. It noted that Sengar was also convicted and sentenced in a separate case and was still in custody in that matter.

"In the peculiar circumstances of the case, we stay the operation of the impugned order dated December 23, 2025, passed by the high court," it said.

Solicitor General Tushar Mehta, for the CBI, urged the bench to stay the high court order, saying it was a "horrific rape" of a child.

The Delhi HC had, in its December 23 order, held Sengar was convicted under Section 5 (C) (sexual assault by a public servant) of POCSO Act but an elected representative does not fit the definition of a "public servant" under the IPC.

The bench observed it was worried that a constable or a 'patwari' will be a 'public servant' in such an offence but a MP or MLA may be exempted if this interpretation was construed to be correct.

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EXPRESS HEALTH
A 52-page special booklet highlighting Bengaluru's healthcare ecosystem and leading providers, released alongside this edition

EXPRESS READ

Gig workers' stir on Dec 31 to hit deliveries

Bengaluru: With app-based delivery gig workers planning a nationwide strike on December 31, e-commerce services, particularly "10-minute deliveries" and instant availability of essentials are likely to be hit in Karnataka on New Year's Eve. Protesters termed the action a "digital protest" aimed at disrupting peak-hour deliveries | **P2**

LEADERSHIP DISPUTE

C.A.T. REMOVES BRAHMOS CHIEF FROM POST

MAYANK SINGH @ New Delhi

IN a rare development, the Hyderabad-bench of the Central Administrative Tribunal (CAT) on Monday directed that the sitting Director General and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Brahmos Aerospace Jaiteerth R Joshi be removed from the post.

Jaiteerth R Joshi

The CAT also asked the defence ministry to reconsider the claim of the senior-most scientist, Sivasubramaniam Nambi Naidu, for the top post. This newspaper was the first to report on December 2, 2024 that the appointment was challenged in the Central Administrative Tribunal (CAT), Hyderabad.

The crisis stemmed from the appointment of Joshi as the CEO. The decision was contested by Sivasubramanyam Nambi Naidu, alleging he was superseded during the selection.

The tribunal, referring to the Standard Operating Procedure, said the Secretary, DDR&D and Chairman of the DRDO can approve one of the names in the panel submitted by the selection committee for appointment to the position of director general. But, as per CAT, they cannot ignore the entire service record of the other scientists.

Jaiteerth R Joshi took over the charge on December 2, 2024. Sources said Naidu, a 'Distinguished Scientist', is seven years senior to Joshi and has served as an 'Outstanding Scientist' since 2017, a position Joshi currently holds. With only three years left in service, Naidu's plea is to consider his seniority and experience.

B'deshis harassed, refused treatment

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bhubaneswar

TWO Bangladeshi nationals travelling to Bhubaneswar for medical treatment were subjected to police verification on arrival at the airport on Sunday night after the locals raised suspicion on their identity. Furthermore, the hospital concerned also reportedly refused admission fearing trouble and both were forced to return to Mumbai from where they had flown in.

According to police sources, the two brothers, aged 49 and 35, arrived from Mumbai after flying in from Dubai, where they were working. The elder sibling, who is suffering from a cardiac ailment, was scheduled to undergo treatment at a private hospital in Bhubaneswar.

The hospital had arranged an ambulance to receive them. However, it failed to arrive and the two attempted to hire a taxi. When the cab driver learnt they were Bangladeshi citizens, he alerted others and police who verified travel documents and cleared them.

However, police sources said the private hospital declined to admit the ailing man, citing concerns over possible backlash.

EXTORTION

FIR AGAINST JOURNO

Accused attempted to extort Rs 5 lakh from three police inspectors by threatening with a fabricated news story linked to 'the Maharashtra ANTF drug factory raid | **P5**

Lost Money in a Financial Fraud?
Investments lost in fraudulent schemes?
I lost money to a fraudster online!
सचेत
An SLCC initiative
A company offered me high returns and is now untraceable!
Lodge your complaint on SACHET PORTAL
Provides information and guidance for filing complaints related to financial irregularities.
Complaints lodged on Sachet Portal are redirected to the concerned authorities to initiate necessary actions.
User can track their complaints on the Portal.
File your complaints on https://sachet.rbi.org.in
RBI Kehta Hai...
Sachet rahein, Surakshit rahein!
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'Victims' evicted from Kogilu to get houses: CM

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

TO tamp down the controversy surrounding the demolition of 167 illegally constructed 'sheds' at Kogilu in north Bengaluru, the Karnataka government on Monday decided to allocate alternative houses to genuine victims, who do not have either houses or residential sites.

The Greater Bengaluru Authority will on Tuesday and Wednesday scrutinise genuine beneficiaries and accommodation will be provided to them on Thursday. These houses will be within 7 km from Kogilu.

The sheds were demolished on December 20.

CONTINUED ON: P2

Strict drunk driving checks across city on New Year's Eve

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

TRAFFIC changes have been made at important places in the city to ensure a smooth flow of traffic on New Year's Eve. The Bengaluru Traffic Police have identified 166 points to conduct drink and drive special drives across the city, while 92 locations will be closely monitored to prevent wheeling, stunt riding and rash driving.

In all, 50 flyovers will be closed from 11 pm on Wednesday till 6 am on Thursday. Only four-wheelers are allowed on the International Airport Road flyover. Ten drones, 249 Cobra vehicles and 400 traffic wardens are being used to ensure a safe and orderly New Year celebration.

The police will restrict the movement of traffic in the Central Business District (CBD) and banned parking of vehicles on MG Road, Brigade Road, Church Street, St Mark's Road, Rest House Road and Residency Road on the intervening night of Wednesday and Thursday.

Except the vehicles of the police and essential services on duty, all other vehicles will be denied entry on these roads from 8 pm on Wednesday till 2 am the next day. Parking on these roads will be banned from 4 pm on Wednesday till 3 am on Thursday.

Only unidirectional movement will be allowed for the public visiting these roads.

Meetings have been held with taxi aggregators to provide transport from places where there will be large gatherings. Any unreasonable surge in prices will also invite trouble for taxi aggregators. **CURBS IN PLACE: P3**

ALMANAC TODAY
• **Tuesday:** 30.12.2025 • **Year:** Vishwavasu • **Ayana:** Dakhsinayana
• **Ritu:** Himanth • **Masa:** Pausha • **Paksha:** Sukla • **Tithi:** Ekadasi 1.17 am
• **Nakshatra:** Bharani 1.00 am • Moon in Vrishabha rashi • **Rahukaala:** 03:00 am to 04:30 am
• **Gulikakala:** 12:00 pm to 01:30 pm • **Yamaganda:** 09:00 am to 10:30 am

WEATHER
MIN 14°C | MAX 29°C
FORECAST: Cloudy
Sunrise 06.41 am | Sunset 06.03 pm | Moonrise 01.59 pm | Moonset 02.06 am

DCM visits Kogilu, says won't allow govt land grab

Site was quarry pit 10 years ago; Kerala CM has eye on minority votes, claims DKS

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

DAYS after the demolition of slum houses in Fakeer Colony and Wasim Layout at Kogilu took a political turn with Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan taking a dig at the Congress government, saying it was following the 'UP model', Deputy Chief Minister and Bengaluru Development Minister DK Shivakumar visited the demolition site and sought details like voter ID card and Aadhaar for verification. The DCM said, "The government will not give land grabbers a chance."

He added that the contentious site was a quarry pit, and about 10 years ago, the government gave land to the corporation and waste management department to build a biogas plant, animal rendering unit and coconut rendering unit. "Overnight, some sheds have mushroomed. The place has turned into a garbage mound, and there is a leachate tank," the DCM said, justifying the Greater Bengaluru Authority's demolition drive.

The DCM stated that the local MLA was aware of the situation and when some people approached him seeking his intervention, he did not entertain, citing the genuine reason of health for rejecting their proposal for housing.

To a media question on Kerala leaders commenting on the demolition and embarrassing the government, the DCM said, "The Kerala CM and Left party are scared of losing, they want to bank on minority voters, and tried to politicise this issue. The Kerala team is here because an election is coming. There is no question of embarrassment; we have to keep the city clean and maintain law and order. We cannot allow people to just occupy government land."

"Will you allow people to come and occupy your property?" he asked the media. "The Kerala CM is on the verge of losing the election, that is why he is doing politics. This is a local issue, and I appeal to him not to interfere in Karnataka's affairs."

Shivakumar said the land belongs to the corporation and an agency that deals with waste management, which is completing fencing work, but before that, the protest happened. He said the agency had informed them about the demolition.

The DCM said a meeting will be held with CM Siddaramaiah and Housing department, and the deserving will be given justice.

After their houses were demolished by the BSWML, residents of Kogilu slum have to make do with make-shift tents; (above) a woman sleeps in a tent | KEVIN NASHON

There were reports that illegal immigrants from Bangladesh were among those staying on government land in Kogilu. The government must order an NIA probe into it

Chalavadi Narayanaswamy, BJP

SHRC visits Kogilu site

After the Kogilu slum demolition sparked off a hot debate and slugfest between the Congress government and Karnataka State Commission for Protection of Child Rights, State Human Rights Commission (SHRC) Chairman Sham Bhat visited the spot on Monday and directed officials to gauge the impact on children.

Bhat told *TNIE*, "The dwellers have claimed they have all 'documents' and termed the demolition illegal. Only after a preliminary report will SHRC be in a position to comment and make recommendations to the government, and the ADGP, DySP will probe."

The SHRC police wing will conduct inquiries, and those affected will need to submit documents. "If it is government land, we will examine records and make recommendations," Bhatt told reporters. Meanwhile, residents allege alternative arrangements were not made before the demolition, although media reports indicate temporary shelter centres were opened at a distance.

Social activist and complainant T Narasimha Murthy said GBA had not followed due process, which resulted in a humanitarian crisis. "Before demolition, GBA has to ensure the rehabilitation of dwellers. Their accommodation, food and medicines should have been taken care of, but GBA left over 250 families, including children and the vulnerable, in the biting cold," said Murthy.

SHRC also served notices to Bengaluru Urban DC and Greater Bengaluru Authority, seeking their response within seven days.

Satellite images show Kogilu housing site was vacant a decade ago

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

EXPOSING false claims by some slum-dwellers of Fakeer Colony and Wasim Layout that they have been residing there for over 25 years, Bengaluru Urban district administration released satellite images of the contentious site, which depict there was no occupation prior to 2016.

According to the timeline of satellite images over the past 10 years, it is established that till 2023, no homes were found, contrary to claims by dwellers that they have necessary documents related to their occupation.

Meanwhile, residents who lost their homes to JCBs deployed by GBA, claimed they had paid Rs 1.5 lakh to Rs 2 lakh to a person called Wasim, and then built homes. The matter was escalated before DCM DK Shivakumar, who said the issue will be probed.

The DCM claimed GBA had sent notices, and there were reports of notices sent to Wasim a year ago. When *TNIE* contacted Wasim, he said no such notices were given as he has no address, and just helped the dwellers build homes and chipped in with masons for construction. "The amount was given to labourers to build homes. I have not cheated anyone," said Wasim.

Meanwhile, Syed Khader Basha, who represents the Fakeer community, said there are 70 houses and most of them belong to 'fakeers'. Dalits and Christians have also been residing there for 30 years. He said he is not responsible for other homes that have come up, and that they belong to people who sell balloons.

Basha said officials from Rajiv Gandhi Housing Corporation (RGHC) are collecting details, and the dwellers are hoping for accommodation.

Reacting to the development, a senior RGHC official said the government has directed RGHC, GBA and Revenue department to conduct a survey. The documents and GPS location of the site will be scrutinised in two days," he said.

Alternative shelter

A senior Karnataka Housing Board official said a meeting was held at the Chief Minister's official residence, and it was decided to give accommodation to slum dwellers at Karnataka Housing Board at Byappanahalli, 7km from the demolished site.

"The documents are being checked and once it establishes which dwellers are from Karnataka, they will be given houses under government schemes. The process will take time. For the time being, accommodation will be arranged at community halls in Hegde Nagar, Kogilu and Kuvempu Nagar," said the official.

Satellite images showing no occupation prior to 2016 and the dwellings that cropped up after 2023 | SPECIAL ARRANGEMENT

Gig workers' stir to disrupt NY delivery services

INDRA S @Bengaluru

WITH app-based delivery gig workers planning a nationwide strike on December 31, e-commerce services, particularly the promise of "10-minute deliveries" and instant availability of essentials are likely to be hit in Bengaluru on New Year's Eve. Protesters have termed the action a "digital protest in a digitised world," aimed at disrupting peak-hour deliveries without street demonstrations.

According to gig workers' unions, the flash strike held on December 25 exposed deep-rooted problems within India's gig economy. Nearly 40,000 delivery workers participated across the country, resulting in an estimated 50 to 60% disruption of services in several cities. Union leaders alleged that instead of addressing workers' concerns, platform companies responded by blocking delivery IDs, issuing threats, involving the police, and imposing what they described as "algorithmic punishments".

Shaik Salauddin, co-founder and national general secretary of the Indian Federation of App-Based Transport Workers (IFAT), said delivery workers were being subjected to unsafe work conditions and arbitrary penalties. "Workers are not slaves of algorithms. We will not accept unsafe 10-minute delivery models, arbitrary ID blocking or denial of dignity and social security," he said, warning that continued repression would only intensify resistance.

Explaining the nature of protest he said, "This is not a conventional street protest. Our strike is a digital and flash strike. During peak delivery hours, when platforms depend most on workers, we are simply rejecting orders. That itself is our protest."

"These companies use digital power to run their business. Why shouldn't workers also use the same digital tools to protest? Instead of slogans and gatherings, we are opting for invisible digital strikes," he added.

In a letter to Union Labour Minister Mansukh Mandaviya, IFAT sought urgent government intervention, stating that falling incomes, unsafe delivery targets, police harassment and lack of social security had pushed workers to the brink.

'STRICT ACTION AGAINST THOSE WHO ALLOWED ILLEGAL SHEDS'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

THE issue triggered a row as Kerala CM Pinarayi Vijayan accused the Karnataka government of bringing Uttar Pradesh's 'bulldozer raj' to the state as most victims were Muslim. To counter that, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah, Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar and Housing Minister Zameer Ahmed Khan met on Monday evening to decide on the politically-rife issue.

After the meeting, Siddaramaiah said illegal structures had come up on 15 acres of government land reserved for a solid waste management plant by the erstwhile BBMP. "We are, however, providing alternative accommodation for the families on humanitarian grounds," he clarified.

Siddaramaiah said he has ordered strict action against officials, who allowed illegal sheds to come up. "We will not allow encroachment of government land. The Revenue Department and corporation will be given powers to deal with such issues," he said.

The Bengaluru deputy commissioner had handed over 15 acres to the municipal corporation to dispose of garbage. A rock quarry is also situated close by and the corporation has been dumping garbage as the land is in its possession, he added.

"The families were living in these illegal sheds from 2020-21. I told the revenue department and municipal corporation officials to take action. Such encroachments cannot happen without the knowledge of tahsildars and shirasthedars," he added.

Pinarayi made it a political issue: Siddu

"There is nothing political about providing housing to the affected. Communists unnecessarily made it a political issue. Kerala CM Pinarayi Vijayan raised it as assembly polls are coming in March/April(2026). That's why he sent an MLA and a Rajya Sabha member to Kogilu," Siddaramaiah said.

"If a house is built illegally, officials will be held responsible. I instructed the deputy commissioner and corporation officials to identify eligible people who were living in those sheds and to submit a list in two days," he stated.

1,087 houses ready

The state government has constructed 1,087 houses in Baiyyappanahalli under its housing scheme. Once the list of genuine beneficiaries is received from the officials, accommodation will be provided in multi-storey buildings, he added.

Each house is priced at Rs 11.20 lakh and state and central government subsidies are available for the general category, Scheduled Castes and Tribes. GBA is instructed to give Rs 5 lakh. With all subsidies, the general category will get Rs 8.7 lakh and SC/STs Rs 9.50 lakh. Another Rs 2.5 lakh will be given as a loan. Zameer has been entrusted with the responsibility, Siddaramaiah said.

The government has built 1 lakh houses to provide shelter to the poor, he added.

Horoscopes By Holiday

HOLIDAY MATHIS

30th December : The Eve of the Eve On the day before New Year's Eve, Mercury makes his presence felt with a square to Saturn. The omen points to emotional pangs rooted in logistics: debts, favors, obligations and the small loose ends that tug on the mind. Let this be a nudge to handle anything that would keep you from stepping into the new year with a fresh attitude.

ARIES (Mar 21 - Apr. 20)
You'll find yourself saying yes automatically, if not accidentally, and it's OK. Think of this as an experiment. And if the process makes your pulse quicken, all the better. Courage kicks in the moment you need it.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 - May 20)
Today gives you options. Choose what future-you will thank you for. Also, it's OK to let yourself want more. When you honor your longings, life responds. Each clear decision snaps a new timeline into place.

GEMINI (May 21 - June 21)
There is much to take in today, but the closer you look, the less you see. And though a wide angle will show you more, it also removes you from the action. Stay open to intuition, and it will guide you to your ideal lens.

CANCER (June 22 - July 22)
Discipline can be self-love instead of punishment. Think of it as the structure that supports your dreams. Your routines are scaffolding. It's a good time to involve others. Work in groups. It will energize you.

LEO (July 23 - Aug. 22)
Share your ideas to the audience you have, even if it's the wrong crowd. The bad match will still inform you. Someday soon you will have an ideal audience: attentive, smart, engaged, curious and ready for a lively exchange.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 - Sept. 22)
Make others feel comfortable and good about themselves, and suddenly you have more clout than the most confident person in the room. Today, you have the charm that makes impenetrable doors swing open for you.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 - Oct. 23)
Good things to borrow: library book, pen, tools. Bad things to borrow: money, time, trouble. Today, you'll field a few requests and offers, and by picking the right ones, you set yourself up for victory.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 - Nov. 21)
Skepticism is an increasingly valuable life skill in the age of fakery. You'll be presented with convincing information, but is it true? Today, it's worth pondering the question: "Who benefits if I believe this?"

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 - Dec. 21)
Today represents a climb of sorts, and you'll need all your faculties to balance. After all, it's difficult to carry items up a ladder. How can you unburden yourself? Can you temporarily lock up your "valuables" and keep only the key?

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 - Jan. 19)
No more talking about the dream, mulling ideas or refining the plan. You simply have too much energy buzzing through you for all that. Time to act. Dive in. This story is about to write itself.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 - Feb. 18)
Your momentum is like a train leaving the station -- slow to get going, then unstoppable. Bring what you need for the whole day, because once you're moving, you'll be inclined to keep going until you get to the destination.

PISCES (Feb. 19 - Mar 20)
You're on an adventure. How do you know? You feel ill-equipped. The very essence of an adventure is that you don't know what's going to happen, so how could you gear up for that? Accept that improvisation is part of the deal.

Solutions to Yesterday's puzzle ⬇

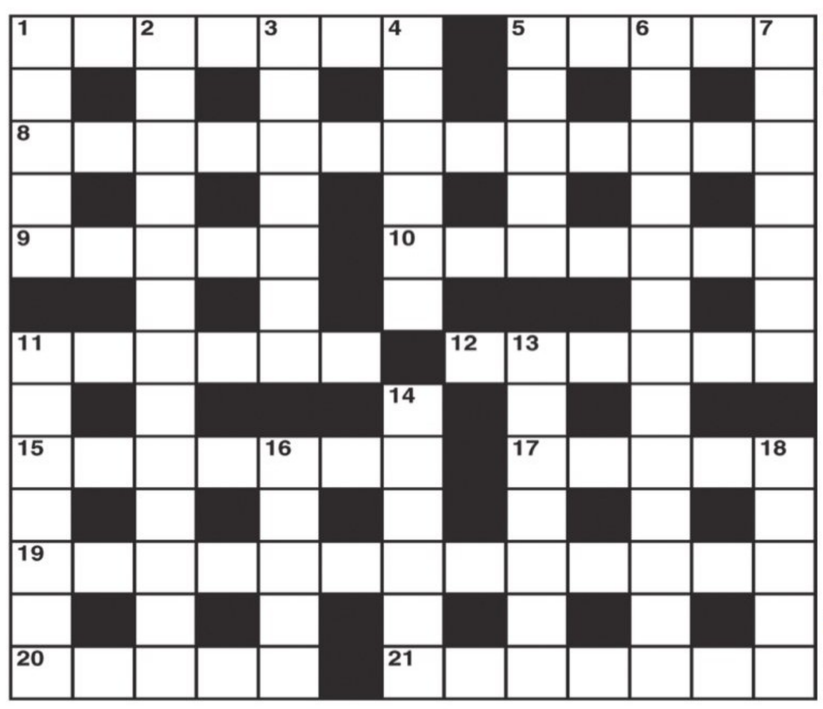
9		7				4		
2	3			4				
		8			2			7
		2	3			9	6	
1								5
	7	5			9	8		
8			7			5		
				5			3	6
		1				7		9

5	4	6	8	1	3	7	9	2
3	1	9	4	7	2	8	5	6
8	2	7	5	6	9	4	3	1
7	6	3	2	9	8	5	1	4
4	9	1	6	5	7	3	2	8
2	8	5	1	3	4	6	7	9
6	7	2	9	4	5	1	8	3
1	3	8	7	2	6	9	4	5
9	5	4	3	8	1	2	6	7

SUDOKU MEDIUM

TEST YOUR NUMBER CRUNCHING SKILL WITH OUR UNIQUE PUZZLE

Fill in the grid with digits in such a manner that every row, every column and every 3X3 box accommodates the digits 1 to 9, without repeating any.



CROSS WORD

ACROSS
1 There's little change for those on the beat (7)
5 His accounts are not taken seriously (5)
8 Raging king of the insect world? (6,7)
9 Remains to give support (5)
10 Put me on ship in a Sicilian port (7)
11 Vegetable causes girl to come out in an allergy (6)
12 Plan a heraldic inscription (6)
15 Goes ahead when the dogs are ready for a walk (5,2)
17 Hack returns with manuscript for the papers (5)
19 Not a chorister out of tune in this arrangement (13)
20 A claw that can pick up a pound in weight (5)
21 Tie up an unusually attractive plant (7)

DOWN
1 Points out in space (5)
2 Upset the apple-cart: darn, it's all in (4,3,6)
3 Listens out for recruits (7)
4 About eleven the ship moves off (6)
5 Manages investments (5)
6 Wrong action - I'm for it to my dismay! (13)
7 Mad rage can lead to slaughter (7)
11 Exclude a possible cause of faulty measurement (4,3)
13 A gentle eccentric - so refined (7)
14 How one should march on foot (6)
16 Back at sea (5)
18 It's a boy! Next one a girl (5)

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTIONS

Across: 1 Spare, 8 Hardback, 9 Drive, 10 In person, 11 Aspic, 12 Inn, 16 Pillar, 17 Untrue, 18 Eon, 23 Scale, 24 Marchers, 25 Bilge, 26 Suppress, 27 Agate.

Down: 2 Port Said, 3 Reveille, 4 Cannon, 5 Admen, 6 Daisy, 7 Skins, 12 Ire, 13 Nun, 14 Stocking, 15 Sunlight, 19 Onrush, 20 Amass, 21 Crops, 22 Sharp.

JUMBLE

UNSCRAMBLE THESE JUMBLES, ONE LETTER TO EACH SQUARE, TO FORM FOUR ORDINARY WORDS.

BY DAVID L. HOYT AND JEFF KNUREK

PLESL

LKUSL

TWREET

BEAOAM

I'm sorry! My car wouldn't start. I tried calling.
Listen, it happens. I'll reschedule you.
11 4
THE COSMETOLOGY STUDENT MISSED HER EXAM AND WOULD NEED TO TAKE A ---

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Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

Answer here:

(Answers tomorrow)

Yesterday's Jumbles: THUMP GIANT DIGEST FELLOW
Answer: When their kids and pets crawled into bed with them, they were able to — SLEEP TIGHT

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS | BENGALURU

03 BENGALURU | TUESDAY 30.12.2025 | newindianexpress.com

Officers of Bengaluru customs stationed at Kempegowda International Airport on Monday seized 17.80 kg hydroponic ganja from three passengers arriving from Bangkok. The contraband was concealed in the passengers' check-in luggage and was worth Rs 6.23 crores. All three of the accused were arrested under the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances Act, 1985

Tight security planned for NY Eve

164 women help desks have been set up; 55 ambulances, four SWAT teams deployed

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah in discussion with Police Commissioner Seemanth Kumar Singh and others at a meeting in Bengaluru, on Monday | EXPRESS

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

POLICE have taken strict measures to ensure that no untoward incidents occur during the New Year celebrations across the city, with women's safety being prioritised, Chief Minister Siddaramaiah said after a review meeting here on Monday. The Chief Minister held a review meeting with Home Minister Dr G Parameshwara, Chief Secretary Shalini Rajneesh, Director General & Inspector General of Police Dr MA Saleem, City Police Commissioner Seemanth Kumar Singh, BBMP Chief Commissioner Maheshwar Rao, and other senior officials.

Special measures have been directed to prevent overcrowding and mishaps at major locations. He also said that adequate arrangements should be made to operate a large number of BMTC buses after midnight to enable people to return home.

Meanwhile, Singh directed strict action against those indulging in spoilsport activities during the celebrations. He said that 20,000 additional police personnel, along with technical surveillance teams, will keep a close watch on troublemakers. He urged either to book cabs or ensure that at least one person in the group drives without consuming alcohol. For the first time, police will not allow circular movement on Brigade Road to avoid bottlenecks.

A total of 164 women's help desks have been set up to assist and report any incidents. Additionally, 55 ambulances, 37 fire tenders, and four SWAT teams have been deployed. For the first time, buses and travellers will be stationed at appropriate locations to clear crowds.

Hospitals to arrange more rooms and ambulances

The health and family welfare department has directed all the district hospitals to arrange separate rooms for men and women on December 31 and January 1 in case of any untoward incidents. They have also been directed to make arrangements for the availability of ambulance facilities and necessary medicines to provide emergency treatment.

Nandi Hills closed

To maintain law and order during the New Year, entry to Nandi Hills will be prohibited. District Collector PN Ravindra issued an order prohibiting the entry of the public and tourists, except for tourists who have booked guest rooms in advance at the hills from 2 pm on December 31 to 10 am on January 1, 2026.

Metro to run till 3am; MG Rd Station to shut by 10pm

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

THE Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited (BMRCL) will extend metro services on the Purple, Green and Yellow lines on New Year's Eve 2026, with last trains running up to 3.10 am on some routes. Services will run at a higher frequency overnight.

MG Road station will be closed from 10 pm. Token sales at Trinity and Cubbon Park stations will be stopped after 11 pm. Passengers travelling after that time are advised to purchase return journey tickets in advance through QR tickets or ensure sufficient balance on their smart cards. On the Purple Line, the last trains from Whitefield to Challaghatta and from Challaghatta to Whitefield will depart at 1.45 am and 2 am respectively. On the Green Line, the last services between Madavara and Silk Institute, in both directions, will depart at 2 am.

On the Yellow Line, services will run later into the night, with the last train from RV Road to Bommasandra departing at 3.10 am, while the final service from Bommasandra to RV Road will leave at 1.30 am.

Nadaprabhu Kempegowda Station, Majestic, the city's main interchange, will see its last departures towards all four directions– Whitefield, Challaghatta, Madavara and Silk Institute at 2.45 am.

However, trains will continue to stop at nearby Trinity and Cubbon Park.

Crowds on Brigade Road ahead of New Year celebrations | KEVIN NASHON

BMTC to run spl midnight buses

Bengaluru: Bengaluru Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC) will operate special bus services during the early hours of New Year's evening to facilitate safe travel for people gathering at MG Road and Brigade Road. Buses will ply from 11 pm on December 31 to 2 am on January 1, depending on traffic. Special routes will connect MG Road and Brigade Road with major destinations across the city, including Electronics City, Jigani, Sarjapura, Kengeri, Janapriya Township, Nelamangala, Yelahanka, Bagaluru, Hosakote, Channasandra, Kadugodi, Banashankari, Jeevan Bhimanagara, Central Silk Board and Koramangala. Services will operate from Brigade Road, MG Road Metro Station, Swami Vikvekananda Metro Station and Kempegowda Bus Station. ENS

CURBS IN PLACE

NO ENTRY

MG ROAD Anil Kumble Circle to Residency Road near Mayo Hall

BRIGADE ROAD Cauvery Emporium junction to Opera junction

CHURCH STREET Brigade Road to Museum Road

MUSEUM ROAD MG Road to Old Madras Road junction

REST HOUSE ROAD Museum Road to Brigade Rd

RESIDENCY CROSS ROAD Residency Road to MG Road (Shankar Nag theatre)

NO PARKING

MG Road: From Anil Kumble Circle to Trinity Circle

PARKING SPACES

- Shivajinagar BMTC Complex 1st floor
- UB City
- Garuda Mall
- Kamaraj Road (Cubbon Road Junction to Commercial St Junction)
- Cab and auto pickup and drop-off places
- **Cubbon Road:** BRV Junction near Chinnaswamy Stadium Gate 6
- **Queens Road:** Queens Junction and CTO Junction
- **Raj Bhavan:** Pick-up point CTO Junction and drop at Cubbon Park Metro Station

BMTC BUSES, VANS STARTING POINTS

- Anil Kumble Junction
- Decathlon
- Near Hosmat Hospital
- Mayo Hall Junction
- Trinity Circle
- Ashirvadam Junction

KORAMANGALA
Pick-up and drop point for cabs & autos at Nexus Mall on Hosur-Lashkar Road, UCO Bank service road, Sukh Sagar Junction on Koramangala 100 Feet Inner Ring Road and NGV back gate junction on Koramangala 80 Feet Road

INDIRANAGAR
Parking restricted on both sides of Indiranagar 100 Feet Road and 12th Main. Pickup point for cabs and autos at BM Shri Junction and drop point is 17th Main Road Junction on Indiranagar 100 Feet Road

MAHADEVAPURA
Parking restricted on both sides of ITPL Main Road, from Hoodi Station to Graphite Junction and ITPL Medicover to Big Bazaar. Pickup for cabs and autos at Lowry Junction and Aster Hospital, drop points at Bescom office and Rajapalya on ITPL Main Road

Mall of Asia: Traffic restricted from Byatarayanapura service road (in front of Mall of Asia), Kodigehalli signal till Allalasandra junction. Pickup points for cabs and autos at Mall of Asia Gate 2, Gate 3, Acre Bengaluru Bar and Kitchen and drop points are at Gate 1, Gate 3 and main gate

Orion Mall, Rajajinagar: Traffic restricted from Navarang signal to Soap Factory on Dr Rajkumar Road. Pick-up for cabs and autos at mall entry and drop point at mall exit

To avoid heavy goods vehicles movement in the CBD areas, diversion will be made from 8pm Wednesday till 6am Thursday. Diversions at Cantonment, Khoday's Junction, Town Hall, Basaveshwara Circle, Domlur flyover, Mehkri Circle, Kensington Road and Yeshwanthpur Circle

Routes of BMTC buses, vans

- Ashirvadam Junction to Bannerghatta
- Anil Kumble Junction to Banashankari
- Anil Kumble Junction to Nice Road Junction
- Anil Kumble Junction to Sunkadakatte via Modi Hospital Road
- Decathlon near opera junction to Nice Road Junction via Richmond Circle
- Hosmat hospital to Marathahalli
- Mayo Hall to Chikkajala
- Mayo Hall to Madavara
- Trinity Circle to Bagaluru
- Trinity to Hoskote

EXPRESS READ

Actor Nandini dies by suicide

Bengaluru: Kannada and Tamil television actress CM Nandini (26) was found dead in her room at Living Insta paying guest in Mylasandra, Kengeri, on Monday. It is suspected that she took the extreme step between 11.15 pm on Sunday and 12.30 am on Monday. Nandini was a native of Kotturu in Vijayanagar district. Her mother GR Basavarajeshwari has filed a complaint. "On Sunday, Nandini went to her friend Puneeth's house. She returned to her room around 11.30pm and bolted the door. When Nandhini did not respond to his calls, Puneeth contacted PG manager Kumar and in-charge Kiran around 11.50 pm. When she did not respond, they forced the door open. They found Nandini hanging with a veil from the window grills," said a police officer. "Nandini had written in her diary that she was not interested in a government job but no one at home was listening to her, indicating that she was mentally distressed," the officer said.

Cylinder blast in PG kills 23-yr-old, 3 hurt

Bengaluru: A 23-year-old private firm employee died, and three others, including a woman, were injured after a cylinder exploded at a co-living paying guest (PG) in Kundalahalli in the HAL police station limits, on Monday. The deceased is Aravind. The injured are Venkatesh (28), a PG employee; CV Goel (23) and Vishal Verma (23). Venkatesh is reported to be in critical condition. The Seven Hills Sai co-living paying guest accommodation, located in Kundalahalli, has 43 rooms and houses around 55 residents. At around 6.15 pm, Aravind noticed smoke coming from the kitchen. ENS

HONOURING IDEAS, INTEGRITY AND THE WRITTEN WORD

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS GROUP

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Urban Development and Town Planning Minister B S Suresh on Monday said Chief Minister Siddaramaiah's governance is rooted in transparency, integrity, and people-centric policies. He noted that Siddaramaiah has earned the trust of the people of Karnataka by being elected as chief minister twice and it is a clear reflection of public confidence in his administration

Finish Line 2025

POWER

Caught between reforms and resistance

BOSKY KHANNA @Bengaluru

AS in previous years, the state government continued to grapple with ensuring uninterrupted, round-the-clock power supply to consumers during the year.

The energy department faced criticism from multiple stakeholders over the rollout of smart metres, priced at Rs 4,998 each, and its push for the implementation of the Sharavathi Pumped Storage Project in the ecologically sensitive Western Ghats.

The government found itself on the defensive for its inability to replicate smart metre models implemented in other states, as recommended by the Union government. Officials attributed this to pending dues owed to the energy supply companies (ESCOMs) by various government departments, particularly the rural development and panchayat raj (RDPR). "We decided to adopt a middle path by introducing smart metres only for new and temporary connections at a cost of Rs 4,998 each," an official said.

The state government also repeatedly defended the proposed 2,000 MW Sharavathi Pumped Storage Project in Shivamogga district, citing the need for additional power generation and grid stability in the context of a unified national power grid. Stakeholders, however, demanded greater transparency and regulatory clearances, while environmentalists and forest department officials continued to oppose the project, which is proposed within the Lion-Tailed Macaque Reserve.

At the same time, the state's power sector achieved notable milestones in renewable energy. Karnataka recently won the National Energy Conservation Award for renewable power generation.

The state also topped the national rankings in the installation of electric vehicle (EV) charging stations. During 2025, a detailed plan was drawn up in coordination with national and state highway authorities to install solar-powered EV charging stations with battery storage along major highways. Discussions were also held with residential apartments and commercial and industrial establishments to expand charging infrastructure and facilitate access to subsidy schemes.

The official inauguration of the Bidadi waste-to-energy plant was postponed following the death of contract labourers. Although the plant continues to generate power using waste from Bengaluru, production levels have not yet been scaled up.

Progress in expanding solar power generation, however, remained limited. While the government worked with farmers to acquire land in and around Bidadi to expand the existing solar park, similar efforts in other districts faced hurdles in land acquisition and agreement finalisation. Adoption of rooftop solar panels by individual establishments also remained low. Agencies such as KPCL, KPTCL and BESCOM continued discussions with farmers to implement the Kusum-B and Kusum-C schemes.

The state also lagged behind Union government targets under the PM-Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana. Officials cited unattractive loan and subsidy provisions, while consumers pointed out that installing rooftop solar panels would result in exclusion from the state's Gruha Jyothi scheme, which provides free electricity up to 200 units.

During the year, ESCOMs made multiple submissions to the Karnataka Electricity Regulatory Commission (KERC) seeking revisions in power tariffs and other charges to address financial losses. Consumers, particularly from the industrial sector, urged the KERC and the state government to focus instead on reducing transmission and distribution losses.

The year also marked the introduction of the open access scheme, allowing consumers to procure power from sources other than ESCOMs.

EXPRESS ILLUSTRATION

Karnataka's power crossroads: Reform or retreat?

MG PRABHAKAR,
Former KERC Advisory committee member

WHEN the Karnataka Electricity Reforms Act was passed in 1999, it promised efficiency, transparency and consumer protection. Two decades later, the reality is mixed. Farmers still face erratic supply, households endure outages and industries shoulder the burden of cross-subsidisation.

The rhetoric of reform is yet to translate into everyday reliability even as the state government makes tall statements of uninterrupted power supply to all. In spite of adequate capacity being available, a fragile, yet essential, green rope needs to be towed.

Karnataka has earned the praise for being a leader in renewable energy generation, with solar and wind projects powering its grid. Yet the state's green credentials mask a fragile reality. Hydro variability and renewable intermittency force costly short-term purchases, undermining affordability. Without flexible generation and better balancing, the renewable energy promise risks continue to be a burden on consumers. This is because the major concern of transmission and distribution losses and the weak links are yet to be identified and addressed.

Transmission under Karnataka Power Transmission Corporation Limited (KPTCL) and distribution through the various Energy supply corporations limited (Escoms) were meant to professionalise operations. Infrastructure has expanded, but Aggregate Technical and Commercial (AT&C) losses remain stubbornly high. Farmers benefit from feeder segregation, yet continue to suffer during irrigation cycles. Due to this the households continue to complain of billing errors and outages. Industry leaders also continue to argue and demand details about smart metering, transparent audits and digital asset management.

These are essential to restore consumer trust which the energy department as a whole saw losing this year. Another reason for this was the carry forward burden of the Gruha Jyothi scheme, one of the five guarantee schemes that was launched by the government.

Performance-linked incentives for the Escom staff could also help drive accountability. For, without smart metering and transparent audits, inefficiencies will persist — and consumers will continue to pay.

The Karnataka Electricity Regulatory Commission (KERC) has public hearings, performance standards, and awareness campaigns. For agriculture, it balances subsidies with fiscal sustainability. For households, it insists on fair tariffs. For industries, it promotes open access and time-of-day tariffs. Yet enforcement continued to be patchy, and grievance forums remained slow. This year, just like previous ones.

The industry associations had called for digital grievance platforms with service-level agreements, arguing that faster resolution is critical for both households and businesses. But no solutions were seen.

Industries and commercial consumers, engines of Karnataka's growth, continued to bear the brunt of cross-subsidisation. Higher tariffs offset agricultural and household subsidies, prompting many firms to migrate to open access or captive generation. This continued to drain Escoms of their revenues and weakened the grid's financial base. The year also saw trade bodies warning that unless cross-subsidies are phased down, Karnataka will risk losing competitiveness. This is because the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, which employ over 1.5 crore people, are particularly vulnerable due to the impact. Rising energy costs and wage pressures have already triggered shutdown threats. Its ripple effects continue to impact across rural economies in the state.

Industrial competitiveness cannot be sacrificed at the altar of subsidy politics. The challenge of shifting revenue and employment concerns was a fine a line that needed to be towed by the sector this year. Industrial consumers once contributed heavily to the state revenue. But now as they are exiting the grid, their fiscal role is now shrinking. Meanwhile, the service sector — IT, finance, hospitality — has become the dominant revenue driver, relying on reliable grid supply. Manufacturing and employment, however, is declining.

Industry leaders argued that targeted energy efficiency programmes, subsidised renewable adoption and tariff structures that reflect employment impact were are necessary to safeguard livelihoods.

Agriculture and household sectors were the real human face of the energy sector this year. For farmers, electricity is a lifeline. Erratic supply leads to crop losses. For households, rising tariffs and outages erode confidence. Protecting these groups is required for reliable feeder supply, targeted subsidies and stronger grievance redressal. The state government should have aggressively tapped into expanding solar pump programmes to reduce dependence on the grid while ensuring irrigation reliability.

The Gurucharan Committee Report that reflected on hard truths for the improvement of the power sector continued to be ignored. The report praised the structural reforms, but flagged inefficiencies. It sought professionalising Escoms, strengthening consumer forums and enhancing transparency. Industry groups echoed these concerns, stressing that governance reforms are not optional but urgent. Without governance reforms, consumer protection remains aspirational. Industrial growth and consumer protection must move together — or Karnataka risks retreating from its reform promise.

Prodded by high command, K'taka Cong tries to put lid on Kogilu issue

Party keen to safeguard its interest in Kerala ahead of Assembly polls in in April/May

DEVARAJ B HIREHALLI @Bengaluru

THE Congress government in the state is treading cautiously after the eviction of 250 families, mostly Muslim, living illegally on government land at Kogilu in Bengaluru invited a nudge from the party high command. The party top brass is wary of the fallout the move will have on its prospects in the Kerala Assembly elections where it is fighting its INDIA bloc partner --- LDF, led by CPM.

Days after Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan of the CPM commented that Uttar Pradesh's "Bulldozer Raj" has arrived in Karnataka, AICC General Secretary (Organisation) KC Venugopal intervened and suggested to the state leaders that the drive could have been undertaken with greater caution. Now, the Siddaramaiah government is making efforts to put the lid on the issue by rehabilitating the evicted.

It is said that Venugopal is eyeing the Kerala chief minister's post if the Congress-led LDF wrests power in the Assembly polls, expected to in April/May, 2026. Incidentally, Siddaramaiah is landing in Thiruvananthapuram late on Tuesday evening to take part in the 93rd Sivagiri pilgrimage meeting at Sivagiri Mutt, Varkala, on Wednesday, where he is likely to meet Venugopal.

Both Siddaramaiah and DCM DK Shivakumar, who were defending the demolition drive, mellowed their tone after Venugopal's intervention.

Children play amid the rubble of their houses at Kogilu on Monday | KEVIN NASHON

They promptly followed the party line with Shivakumar even stating that Venugopal has the power to advise the state government. Their moves also assume significance as the high command is yet to decide on leadership change in Karnataka.

Housing Minister Zameer Ahmed Khan and Social Welfare Minister Dr HC Mahadevappa, from the Siddaramaiah camp, attacked Vijayan for interfering in the state issue. Zameer, a Muslim strongman, advised Vijayan to build houses for the "victims" if he is so concerned.

Earlier, a delegation including CPIM leaders -- Kerala MP AA Rahim and former minister KT Jaleel -- visited Kogilu and came down heavily on the Congress government, likening its act to UP's "bulldozer raj". It is highly likely that CPM, which documented the agony of the "victims", plans to play it against Congress during campaigning for the Kerala Assembly polls.

However, Congress got its other ally, Indian Union Muslim League (IUML), on its side as its leader PK Kunhalikutty, who visited the area on Sunday, said the demolition drive should not be equated with that of Uttar Pradesh.

The state BJP, in the meantime, criticised the government for taking policy decisions to allegedly appease Muslims keeping in mind the Kerala polls and also to please party's central leaders, including Venugopal and Priyanka Gandhi Vadra, who is Wayanad MP.

Sources said Congress leaders in Karnataka do not want to hand the demolition issue on a platter to Vijayan to target Venugopal and Congress. "The bulldozing of Faqir Colony and Waseem Layout in Bengaluru, uprooting Muslim families who have lived there for years, exposes the brutal normalisation of "bulldozer raj"," the Kerala CM had stated on X.

Within no time, Venugopal entered the scene to control the damage. He spoke to Siddaramaiah and Shivakumar, and conveyed AICC's "serious concern that such actions should have been undertaken with far greater caution, sensitivity, and compassion, keeping the human impact at the centre".

Kerala is a key state for Congress as it has given political moorings to the Sonia Gandhi family, as Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi was elected from Wayanad and Priyanka Gandhi Vadra succeeded him as MP there. In 2024, the Karnataka government disbursed Rs 15 lakh compensation to the kin of a man from Wayanad killed by an elephant translocated to Kerala. The Siddaramaiah government had also granted Rs 10 crore to build 100 houses for the flood victims in Wayanad.

"After Congress emerged victorious in the local body polls, CPIM is on a weak footing in Kerala ahead of the Assembly polls. It is copying the BJP script to portray Congress as anti-Muslim. CPM and BJP have now become 'bhai-bhai' as the Pinarayi government has been implementing all the signature programmes of Prime Minister Narendra Modi," said AICC secretary, Kerala incharge, PV Mohan.

DEVPT PUSH

CM: Finish all projects without delay

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

CHIEF Minister Siddaramaiah has directed officials to expedite the process of acquiring lands for railway projects in the state. Eighty-four per cent of the 16,554 acres of land required for implementation of approved railway projects in the state has been acquired, and 2,685 acres are yet to be acquired.

During a meeting with senior officials to review infrastructure development and implementation of railway projects in the state, the CM directed officials to take all necessary measures to speed up the implementation of railway projects.

The state government has released Rs 2,581.67 crore to complete ongoing railway projects and Rs 2,950.22 crore for land acquisition, said a note from the CM's office. Also, six airport projects are under different stages of implementation and during the meeting, it was decided to ensure that all technical issues are addressed as a priority for completing the projects.

The government had allocated Rs 1,890 crore for repairing roads damaged during rains in 2024-25, and of that, Rs 250 crore has been released. For development of infrastructure under the Chief Minister's Infrastructure Development project, Rs 8,666.50 crore was allocated in 2025-26, and Rs 1,000 crore has already been released, the statement said.

The CM directed the officials to implement all projects in a time-bound manner without compromising on the quality.

BJP wants home min's resignation for failing to reign in drug mafia

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru/Udupi

IN the wake of the Maharashtra ANTF busting three drug manufacturing units in Bengaluru, the Opposition BJP has demanded Home Minister Dr G Parameshwara's resignation for failing to act against the drug mafia.

Speaking to media persons in Bengaluru, Leader of Opposition in the Council Chalavadi Narayanaswamy said the Maharashtra police busting drug manufacturing units in Bengaluru gives scope for suspicion that the government was supporting such activities by not taking any action against them. The BJP also launched a poster campaign demanding the home minister's resignation.

Leader of the Opposition in the Assembly R Ashok launched a scathing attack, alleging that drug mafia has spread its tentacles across the state due to the failure of the government. Speaking to reporters in Kaup in Udupi district, Ashok said the drug menace had reached such proportions that police from Maharashtra were able to detect and crack drug networks operating in Bengaluru, while the Karnataka police had failed to act.

"The Maharashtra police have carried out raids in Bengaluru and seized drugs worth crores of rupees. Why has our intelligence system failed to detect this? Is there a bigger insult than this?" he said. Ashok alleged that the state government has done nothing to curb drug peddling and claimed that this year's New Year celebrations will turn into "drug celebrations" due to the spread of narcotics. He criticised the home minister's alleged inaction, stating that repeated assurances of inquiries and reports had yielded no concrete results.

Ashok further alleged large-scale irregularities within prisons. He claimed that drug peddlers lodged in jails in cities such as Mangaluru and Bengaluru were enjoying "five-star hotel facilities."

He said Chief Minister Siddaramaiah was preoccupied with leadership issues and alleged that the state was being "run by outsiders".

Cong attacks to damage JDS will always fail: Gowda

BR UDAYA KUMAR @Haradanahalli

JDS supremo HD Deve Gowda on Monday accused Congress leaders of making futile attempts to destroy his party politically by tarnishing its image. "We formed an alliance with the BJP only to save the regional party and its workers in the state," the former prime minister said after offering special pooja at Deveshwara temple here.

The Congress attacks on the party and its leaders has failed to make a dent on the image of the JDS, he said, adding that the party is part of NDA and the alliance will continue to fight the Assembly and parliamentary elections in the state.

"The party has decided to hold a mammoth rally in Hassan on January 24 to counter the public rallies held by Congress in Hassan. The Congress held two successive rallies only in Hassan district, his home turf, to destroy the JDS base. Party leaders should bring more workers and make the public rally a success," Gowda said.

JDS supremo HD Deve Gowda offers pooja at Deveshwara temple in Huddanahalli of Holenarasipur taluk on Monday. His son former minister HD Revanna looks on

He also took a jibe at the power tussle between Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and DCM DK Shivakumar. "The cold war between the CM and DCM has hampered development works in the state."

The JDS is planning to fight the upcoming rural and urban body elections on its own despite being part of the NDA and Gowda will discuss with Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah on continuing the alliance in Assembly and parliamentary elections in the state.

Gowda criticised Congress leaders' frequent meeting with Tamil Nadu CM MK Stalin, terming the visits as just for "political gain".

Lauding the efforts of his sons -- Union minister HD Kumaraswamy and former minister HD Revanna -- Gowda said both took up development works for Hassan district that enriched his political career.

He also condemned Congress leaders over their claims against the Centre on devolution of funds and the renaming of the MGNREGA scheme.

Muthu Abhimanyu (30), a tea shop owner who had been absconding after allegedly attempting to kill a woman named Geetha Vijay (41) by pouring petrol on her and setting her on fire for refusing to allow him marry her daughter, has been arrested in Tamil Nadu. The incident happened at the victim's house on 3rd block, Basaveshwaranagar, last Tuesday. The accused was living with the victim and her daughter

Power bill to rise in '26, KERC calls it 'top-up'

When the commission announced power tariff revision in March 2025, it had decided to freeze the tariffs for three years

BOSKY KHANNA @Bengaluru

IN the coming financial year, consumers will have to shell out more for electricity consumed. But the Karnataka Electricity Regulatory Commission (KERC) terms it a true-up or top-up and not a power tariff revision.

To put it simply, when KERC announced power tariff revision in March 2025, it also decided to freeze the tariffs for three years. But based on market fluctuations and pending arrears to electricity supply companies (Escoms), revisions will be done, but it will be called a top-up.

"This is the first time that Karnataka has adopted this model where power tariff will be uniform for a long term. But top-up or true-up revisions will be done annually," P Ravi Kumar, KERC Chairman, told The New Indian Express.

Power tariffs are revised once in five years in other states, while Karnataka was the only state that followed an annual revision. From now on, power tariffs will be revised once every three years, and the existing rates will continue till 2027.

"Unlike the power tariff revision, top-ups will be uniform across the board and apply to all Escoms. They are calculated considering multiple factors. The maximum hike will not be more than 8-10 paise per unit," said another senior KERC official, not wanting to be named.

This financial year, the list of factors include cross-subsidy adjustments which Escoms had sought for 2023 and 2024. It also includes the rise in agricultural subsidy, which the state government anyway bears, but is incorporated while calculating the power tariff.

"The agricultural subsidy has now become a financial burden, and Escoms were asked to reduce it," said an energy department official. Escoms revised their calculations and submitted a proposal to KERC reducing it to Rs 7.7 per unit from the proposed Rs 8.3.

Also, no fuel adjustment charges were levied in 2025-26. The coal prices were noted to be stable. Thermal power plants experienced a stable coal supply that reduced the import of coal. The year also saw thrust being given to renewable energy, where generation and supply charges are different.

"Calculating all these components, the power cost will be reduced. But there will be no reduction in tariff as the Gruha Jyothi scheme (free power up to 200 units) has to be included. In fact, there will be a rise in tariff this year too. But it will be called a top-up and not a tariff revision," the KERC official explained.

In March 2025, KERC had reduced the per unit charge for domestic and industrial consumers, but increased the fixed charges by Rs 25. KERC had also imposed an additional 36 paise per unit towards pension and gratuity surcharge (government's contribution) to energy department employees.

Medical boards to be set up to determine juveniles' age

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

DIRECTED by the Karnataka High Court, the Commissionerate of Health & Family Welfare Service announced on Monday that it would constitute medical boards at the district levels for the "age determination of juveniles in conflict with law". The Kalaburagi Bench of the High Court, in paragraphs 29 and 30 of Criminal Petition/Writ Petition No. 200464/2015, directed the state government to mandatorily constitute medical boards for this purpose.

The HC's directions had come almost a decade ago – in 2016 – after Bidar resident Siddeshwar was charged with the rape of a six-year-old girl. When the case was being heard, he above 20 years but he claimed that at the time of the act, he was a juvenile.

According to details shared by the Commissionerate, each medical board will have a few specialists: physiologist, dental expert, radiologist and forensic expert. "However, as per the existing administrative structure of the Health department, the post of physiologist does not function as a designated member of the medical board at the district level. Accordingly, the physiologist from the nearest government medical college shall be co-opted as a member of the medical board for the case, and render the necessary expert opinion," a release said.

FOR A HOLY CAUSE

MLC Sharavana oversees preparation of laddus for distribution on the occasion of Vaikuntha Ekadashi in Bengaluru on Monday. Sharavana Charitable Trust is planning to distribute one lakh laddus as prasadam at all Venkateshwara temples in the city | NAGARAJA GADEKAL

EXPRESS READ

Special court drops sexual harassment charge against Revanna

Bengaluru: In a major relief to former minister and JD(S) Holenarasipur MLA HD Revanna, a special court has dropped the sexual harassment charge against him in a case registered at the Holenarasipur town police station in 2024, citing a delay in filing the complaint. A domestic help had filed a complaint alleging sexual assault and harassment by HD Revanna and his son, former Hassan MP Prajwal Revanna, who is currently serving a life sentence in a rape case. The 42nd special court, for sitting and former MPs /MLAs, heard the arguments and noted that the probe was conducted by the Special Investigation Team (SIT). Revanna had approached the court seeking to drop the charge under IPC Section 354A against him. The court observed that there was considerable delay between the alleged date of the incident and the filing of the complaint. **ENS**

DR. RAM MANOHAR LOHIA INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES
VIBHOOTI KHAND, GOMTI NAGAR, LUCKNOW- 226 010
Phones : 6692000, 6692001
Website : www.drrmlims.ac.in

Ref No:- 690 /PGCell/RMLIMS/2025 Date: 27.12.2025

Advertisement for PDF Course

Applications are invited for admission to PDF course (Neuro Endovascular Surgery) in the department of Neurosurgery.

Application forms & information Brochure are available online at Institute academic website http://.drrmlims.in.

Last date for submission of application is 10.01.2026.

Director

ZERO TOLERANCE

Three inspectors suspended in drug bust failure

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Bengaluru

THREE police inspectors were suspended on Monday following the drug manufacturing and storage units in their jurisdictions that were busted by the Maharashtra Anti-Narcotics Task Force (ANTF) in a joint operation with Bengaluru City Police.

The suspended officers are Chethan Kumar of Kothanur Police Station, Ramakrishna Reddy of Avalahalli Police Station, and Srinivas of Bagaluru Police Station.

Speaking to *TNIE*, City Police Commissioner Seemanth Kumar Singh said that the three officers were suspended for negligence after they failed to gather intelligence and enforce the zero-tolerance policy against drugs in their respective jurisdictions. He added that they had also failed to effectively implement the "Mane Manege Police" initiative in their jurisdiction. The incident has caused embarrassment to the city police, as the illegal drug units were operating under their nose.

The joint operation busted three locations in the city where drugs were being manufactured and stored for distribution to different states. 4.2 kilograms of mephedrone (MD), worth Rs 1.2 crore, along with manufacturing machinery and raw materials, were seized. Meanwhile, Maharashtra Police claimed that the total value of the seized drugs was Rs 55 crore.

TV reporter booked for alleged extortion

Bengaluru: An FIR has been registered against a reporter of a Kannada private television channel for allegedly attempting to extort Rs 5 lakh from three police inspectors by threatening them with suspension through a fabricated news story linked to a Maharashtra ANTF drug factory raid. The accused allegedly demanded money to "settle" the matter, promising not to telecast a report accusing the officers of aiding drug peddlers in their jurisdictions. According to the FIR registered on Monday at Bagaluru Police Station, Sharath Sharma has been named as accused Number 1, while the owner of the private Kannada channel as accused No. 2, along with other reporters. The complaint was filed by Police Sub-Inspector Ramesh Bandra, who received a call on Sunday night. **ENS**

RGUHS to set up wellness centres on campuses

RASHMI PATIL @Bengaluru

WITH a view to keep a tab on the mental health of medical students in 25 government medical colleges in the state, the Rajiv Gandhi University of Health Sciences is planning to launch wellness clinics and provide the students with health cards.

"We have asked each government medical college to identify a psychiatrist, psychologist and coordinator from community medicine to be part of the wellness centre in their campuses," said RGUHS Vice-Chancellor Dr Bhagavan BC.

"All students will be counselled and issued health cards marking the date of their visitats to the wellness centre. Our focus is on counselling and providing psychological support to the medical students in various disciplines. This is required because these students stay away from their homes for a long time, and there are chances of them slipping into depression because of extreme academic pressure and relationship failures. While some can overcome the situation, others get into substance abuse as a coping mechanism," he said.

Citing incidentes of students committing suicide, Bhagvan said, "We do not want such incidents to repeat, which is another reason for launching the wellness centres in the medical colleges."

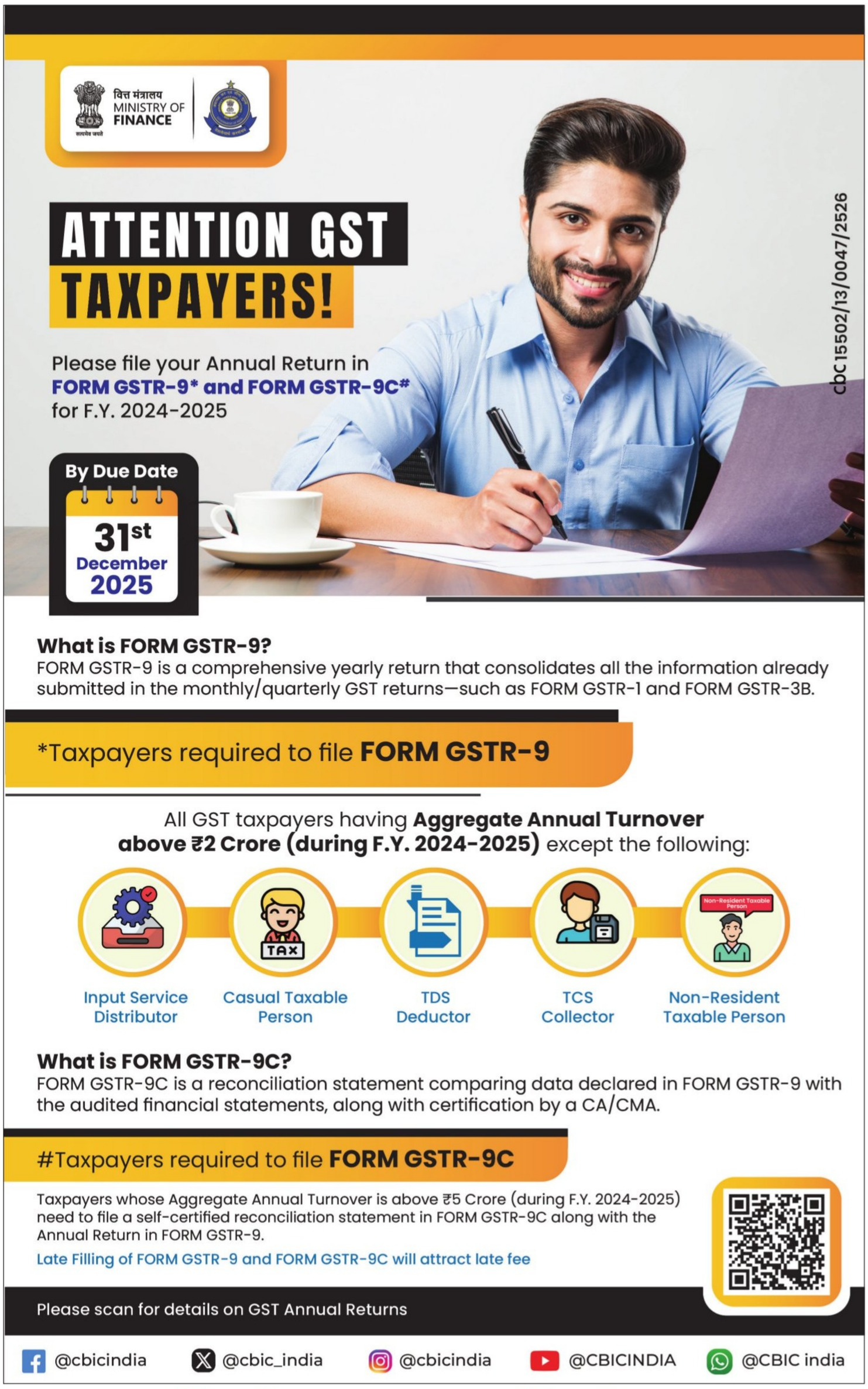
ANTI-DRUG CAMPAIGNS ON CAMPUSES

The RGUHS has also launched a 'Nasha Mukti' campaign on its campuses across the state to discourage the students from getting into substance abuse. Bhagvan said, "We have already covered eight districts. We will cover the remaining districts in the coming days. As part of it, we are signing MoUs with multiple private organisations to train students on multiple activities, including Yoga."

Air Force officials and officials from IIT, Madras, pose for a photo after signing an MoU in Bengaluru on Monday | EXPRESS

IAF'S SOFTWARE WING, IIT MADRAS INK PACT TO BUILD AIRBORNE COMMS

Bengaluru: The city-based Software Development Institute of the Indian Air Force has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Indian Institute of Technology, Madras, for the joint design and development of an indigenous digital communication system for airborne applications. "This marks a step towards realising the vision of Atmanirbhar Bharat, fostering self-reliance in defence technology and enhancing India's strategic capabilities", according to a press release. The MoU was signed by Air Vice Marshal R Guruhari, Commandant, SDI; Prof V Kamakoti, Director, IIT Madras; and Dr MJ Shankar Raman, CEO, Pravartak Technologies Foundation, on Monday. The IAF aims to develop advanced algorithms for networking and encryption in collaboration. These systems are critical for secure, reliable, and high-performance data exchange in dynamic airborne environments, essential for modern military operations and networked warfare. By developing this technology indigenously, the collaboration seeks to reduce reliance on imported systems and promote technological sovereignty. **ENS**


वित्त मंत्रालय
MINISTRY OF FINANCE
ATTENTION GST TAXPAYERS!
Please file your Annual Return in
FORM GSTR-9* and FORM GSTR-9C#
for F.Y. 2024-2025
By Due Date
31st December 2025
CBC 15502/13/0047/2526
What is FORM GSTR-9?
FORM GSTR-9 is a comprehensive yearly return that consolidates all the information already submitted in the monthly/quarterly GST returns—such as FORM GSTR-1 and FORM GSTR-3B.
*Taxpayers required to file FORM GSTR-9
All GST taxpayers having Aggregate Annual Turnover above ₹2 Crore (during F.Y. 2024-2025) except the following:
Input Service Distributor
Casual Taxable Person
TDS Deductor
TCS Collector
Non-Resident Taxable Person
What is FORM GSTR-9C?
FORM GSTR-9C is a reconciliation statement comparing data declared in FORM GSTR-9 with the audited financial statements, along with certification by a CA/CMA.
#Taxpayers required to file FORM GSTR-9C
Taxpayers whose Aggregate Annual Turnover is above ₹5 Crore (during F.Y. 2024-2025) need to file a self-certified reconciliation statement in FORM GSTR-9C along with the Annual Return in FORM GSTR-9.
Late Filling of FORM GSTR-9 and FORM GSTR-9C will attract late fee
Please scan for details on GST Annual Returns
@cbicindia @cbic_india @cbicindia @CBICINDIA @CBIC india

A herd of wild elephants went on a rampage on a coffee plantation along Pollibetta Road at Siddapur in Madikeri district on Sunday night and destroyed many arecanut palms and coffee plants. The owner of the plantation said he suffered huge losses. He has complained to the forest officials and demanded a permanent solution to prevent the elephants from entering human habitats

Bumper rainfall, shaky prices leave farmers in distress

ASHWINI M SRIPAD
@ Bengaluru

OVER the past two decades, farmers in Karnataka have largely faced distress due to drought and deficient rainfall. This year, while pre-monsoon showers were favourable, excess rainfall during the monsoon caused severe crop damage in several parts of the state. Farmers also suffered heavy losses due to a sharp crash in market prices, particularly of sugarcane, maize, tur dal, and mangoes.

During the pre-monsoon period this year, the state recorded 288mm of rainfall, as against 119.6mm normal rain. The State, as a whole, is classified under 'Large Excess Category'. After drought in 2024, these showers brought smiles to farmers, who grew summer crops. It helped recharge groundwater, which again helped farmers take up agri activities.

As pre-monsoon showers were good, some parts of Karnataka, including Chamarajanagar, Mysuru, Mandya, Kolar, parts of Kalaburagi and Bidar yielded two crops, and one was harvested before the monsoon. The Southwest monsoon this year was a little above normal and received average of 882mm against 852mm between June and September-end. Farmers in some parts of the state, especially Kalaburagi and other regions, received excess rainfall, causing flooding and crop damage.

This year, the Northeast monsoon brought deficit rainfall in North and Central Karnataka, and some pockets in Bengaluru Rural and Chamarajanagar districts. But the pre-monsoon and monsoon seasons saw good rainfall that helped reservoirs fill up, not once, but a couple of times. "Good rain throughout the year have helped fill up dams and also recharge groundwater. This will help take up agricultural activities in summer too," said GS Srinivasa Reddy, prominent meteorologist and former director of Karnataka State Natural Disaster Monitoring Centre.

While the weather and rain god favoured farmers, prices crashing was an issue for both agriculture and horticulture crops throughout the year. This year saw a bumper harvest of mangoes, and prices crashed from Rs 10,000 per quintal to Rs 3,000 per quintal. Growers demanded a minimum support price like the Andhra government, that pays Rs 4,000 per quintal. This year, even the Andhra government banned Karnataka mangoes, adding more woes to State growers.

Full story: newindianexpress.com

Erratic rain, resilient crops – how 2025 shaped agriculture

DR MN THIMMEGOWDA & DR MB RAJEGOWDA
University of Agricultural Sciences, Bengaluru

Finish Line 2025
AGRICULTURE

THE weather during 2025 in Karnataka was characterised by high rainfall variability and frequent extreme events, marked by excessive pre-monsoon rainfall, normal Southwest monsoon, and deficit post-monsoon rain. Overall, the cumulative rainfall in the state up to December 23 stood at 1,319mm, against a normal of 1,152mm, recording a positive deviation of 15 per cent.

Region-wise, rainfall remained above normal across all agro-climatic zones: South Interior Karnataka (SIK) received 741mm against 712mm (+4%), North Interior Karnataka (NIK) recorded 848mm against 700mm (+21%), Malnad received 2,129mm against 1,947mm (+9%), while the Coastal region experienced 4,184mm against 3,517mm (+19%).

The pre-monsoon period (March-May) witnessed exceptionally high rainfall, with the state recording 286mm against a normal of 115mm (+149%). This unusually high rainfall significantly augmented groundwater recharge and led to substantial inflows into reservoirs, resulting in early filling of major dams by May itself. The coastal region recorded an extraordinary 707mm against a normal of 156mm (+354%) during this period.

The Southwest monsoon season (June-September) remained largely normal, with 882mm against a normal of 852mm (+4%). While NIK (+21%) and the coastal region (+3%) received above-normal rainfall, SIK (-9%) and Malnad (-7%) experienced marginal deficits. The northeast monsoon (October-December), up to December 23, was below normal, with the state receiving 149mm against 181mm (-17%), and pronounced deficits in NIK (-32%) and SIK (-12%).

The month-wise rainfall distribution reflected sharp contrasts, with distinctly wet (April, May, July, September and October) and dry (June, August, November and December) months, indicating an erratic and uneven monsoon pattern that significantly influenced agricultural operations across the state.

The favourable pre-monsoon micro-climate supported greengram cultivation in northern Karnataka, resulting in higher productivity. However, early kharif cotton and tur in the same region were adversely affected by waterlogging, leading to poor germination and establishment and a yield decline of 25-30 per cent.

Rainfed kharif crops such as maize, ragi and pulses in central and southern Karnataka, though exposed to erratic rainfall, benefited from adequate residual soil moisture during dry spells, which supported crop water requirements and stabilised yields. The relatively dry conditions during November and December further facilitated crop maturity and harvesting. As a result, yield improvements of 10-15 per cent are expected in these crops.

Despite deficit rainfall during the rabi season, crops in northern Karnataka benefited from residual soil moisture and improved groundwater levels. The drop in temperature during December proved favourable for flowering and pod development in Bengal gram. Overall, the rabi cropped area increased marginally, and productivity is expected to improve, leading to higher rabi production in the state.

Among commercial crops, sugarcane benefited from higher rainfall, resulting in a 10-15 per cent yield increase. However, lower temperatures during later months induced flowering, which may adversely affect sugar recovery. In the hilly regions, the combination of good pre-monsoon and monsoon showers provided an ideal environment for coffee, with production expected to increase by up to 20 per cent.

The rice crop in the Krishna and Cauvery command areas benefited significantly from early reservoir filling and timely canal water releases. Early sowing, continuous water supply during crop growth, and drier conditions during maturity and harvest collectively contributed to improved yields, raising prospects of a bumper kharif rice harvest.

The 2025 weather scenario in Karnataka highlights a growing asymmetry between kharif and rabi seasons under increasing climate variability. While excess and erratic rainfall posed challenges during early kharif, improved soil moisture and favourable late-season conditions helped stabilise overall production. Strengthening climate-resilient farming practices, water management, and weather-based advisories will be crucial to sustaining agricultural productivity in the years ahead.

Probe why Sindhuri stayed at Jindal Township: Farmers to govt

KIRAN BALANNANAVAR @ Ballari

TWO farmers' organisations have sought a high-level inquiry into Commerce and Industries (Mines) Department Secretary and senior IAS officer **Rohini Sindhuri**'s stay at the Jindal Township, instead of a government guest house, during her official tour of Ballari from December 25 to 27.

Sindhuri is one of the respondents in an appeal filed by the Jindal Group before the Supreme Court in connection with the firm's acquisition of four iron ore mines, allegedly in violation of some SC directions. Hence, her stay at a facility owned by the appellant violates the Karnataka Civil Services (Conduct) Rules, 1966, the farmer leaders said. The State Farmers' Association and Hasiru Sene Organisation on Sunday submitted the complaint to the CM and the chief secretary, saying the farmers could not meet her as she never came out of the premises.

They said the Jindal Group is a major player in mining in the Sandur region and recently acquired four iron ore mines through an auction process. They alleged that the state government violated SC directions during the auction, an issue the Central Empowered Committee flagged in its submission to the apex court.

The Jindal Group has filed an interim application before the SC regarding this, naming several government departments, including commerce and industries, as respondents. As the secretary of the department, Sindhuri is also a respondent in the case. "In such a situation, her stay at facilities owned by the company raises serious doubts and creates an impression of conflict of interest," a farmer leader said.

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE ENGINEER, PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT
DIVISION KOPPAL. Phone No:08539-222318.email:eepwdkpl2@gmail.com
IFT No. PWD:DK:TR: KW-4:2025-26: 3361 Date: 26-12-2025

INVITATION FOR SHORT TERM TENDER (IFT)

The Executive Engineer, Public works Department Division Koppal invites tenders from the eligible tenderers as per standard bid documents KW-4 on http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in Portal. Head of Account : KKRDB Macro-General / 2025-26. Two cover Tender procedure as per Rule 28 of the KTPP Act shall be followed. For more information the contractor can contact the under signed during office hours on Phone No. 08539 – 222318 and all informations regarding tenders can be had from website http://kppp.karnataka.gov.in. 02 Works (Work Indent No: **30022 & 30024**). Last Date & Time for receipt of tenders **05-01-2026** Time 16.00, Date and Time for opening of Technical Bid **06-01-2026** Time 16.30, Date and Time for opening of Financial Bid **09-01-2026** Time 11.00. Estimate Maximum Amount Rs. 500.00 Lakhs respectively. The tender documents can be downloaded from the above website address, EMD, Date & Time for Pre-bid meeting, Tender Queries/Clarification, for reservation of category & Other information as mentioned in KPPP Portal. Any changes either in tender date or any other condition tenderers can view in KPPP portal.

DIPR/Koppal/571/KSMCA/2025-26 **Sd/- EE, PWD Division,** Koppal

The Grain Merchants' Co-Operative Bank Limited
H.O, No.2, Pampamahakavi Road, Chamarajpet, Bengaluru - 560 018.
Phone 26677552, 26679041
Estd.1927

PUBLIC AUCTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

The Borrower **Sri D.A.Raju, S/o Sri D.A.Anthony Dass, No.10/1, 15th A Main Road, 66th Cross, 5th Block, Rajajinagar, Bangalore-560010. Surety: Sri Aravind Raju, S/o Sri D.A.Raju.** The debt due to Bank as on **26.12.2025** of **Rs.1,09,65,942/-** + Interest & miscellaneous expenses. Auction sale under the securitization and reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforce of Security Interest Act 2002 Section 13(4) of the Immovable properties mortgaged to The Grain Merchants' Co-Operative Bank Ltd., is brought to Sale under **"AS IS WHERE IS CONDITION" "AS IS WHAT IS CONDITION"on 02.02.2026, Monday at 11.00 am.** Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower/(s) and Guarantor/(s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, **Actual possession** of which has been taken by the Authorized Officer.

DESCRIPTION OF PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the immovable residential property bearing Old No.801 and present No.801/1/2, 76th "A" Cross, 6th Block, Rajajinagar, Bangalore.560010. The Schedule property is within the limits of BBMP Bangalore with BBMP allotted PID No.21-17-1/2, Measuring East to West: 27 feet & North to South: 40 feet in all totally measuring 1080 Sq.ft. the Schedule property consisting of Ground, First, Second and Third Floors**, (THE TITLE HOLDER HAVING ABSOLUTE RIGHT OVER THE SCHEDULE PROPERTY EXCEPT SECOND FLOOR OF ENTIRE PORTION)** and bounded on the East by: Site No.800, West by: Site No.802, North by: Government Property & South By: Road.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS

(1) The public auction will be conducted in the premises of The Grain Merchants' Co-Operative Bank Ltd., Head Office No.2, Pampamahakavi Road, Chamarajpet, Bangalore-560018.
(2) For participation in the auction the intending bidders have to deposit an amount Rs.9,35,500/- equivalent to 10% of the Reserve Price Rs.93,52,194/- being cautioned deposit by means of Demand Draft/Pay Order drawn in favour of M/s.The Grain Merchant's Co.Operative Bank Ltd., The cautioned deposit shall be forfeited by the bank without any prior notice, if the successful bidder fails to adhere to the terms of sale, time and commits default in any manner.
(3) The Property "SHALL NOT" be sold below the reserve price
(4) In case the bidder is not successful the EMD amount shall be refund without interest.
(5) The successful bidder should deposit 25% of the sale price (inclusive of EMD) immediately after the auction sale, on the same day, in Cash or Demand Draft and the balance of the Sale price within 15 days from the date of confirmation of sale. In case of default by the successful bidder, all the amounts deposited till then shall be forfeited without notice and the property shall be put for re-auction.
(6) The successful bidder shall bear the statutory dues/taxes/charges/property tax/electricity charges/water charges/conveyance charges such as stamp duty, registration fee etc. that is required to be paid in order to get the property conveyed in his favour, as per the applicable laws.
(7) The authorized officer has absolute right to accept or reject any or all if the tender or/bid/ offer and/or adjourn/postpone/ cancel the auction sale without assigning any reason, and also to modify an or all terms and conditions of the sale without prior notice.
(8) The sale is subject to confirmation by the Bank.
(9) The property can be inspected by the intending bidder between 10.00 A.M. to 5.00 P.M. at his/her expenses at the address mentioned in the schedule.
(10) The property is put for sale on **"AS IS WHERE IS CONDITION" AND "AS IS WHAT IS CONDITION"** the intending bidder shall satisfy himself about the title,ownership,statutory approvals, encumbrances etc. of the property.

Place: Bangalore
Date: 26.12.2025

Sd/-
Authorised Officer,
The Grain Merchants' Co Operative Bank Ltd.,

STATE BANK OF INDIA
Home Loan Centre, HSR Layout (64065), Khata No. 241, 19th Main Road, 4th Sector, HSR Layout, Bengaluru – 560 102. Phone: 080-25564065, Email ID: racpc.hsr@sbi.co.in, maint.hsr@sbi.co.in

DEMAND NOTICE TO BORROWER

NOTICE UNDER SECTION 13 (2) OF SECURITISATION AND RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT 2002 (HEREINAFTER CALLED 'ACT ')

A notice is hereby given that the following Borrower/Mortgager **Sri. R. Saravana Kumar S/o. Late G. Ranganathan and the Gaurantor : Smt. K. Tilagavathy D/o. Sri G. Kanakaraj** have defaulted in the repayment of principal and interest of the loan facility obtained by them from the Bank and the loan account have been classified as Non-Performing Assets (NPA). The notice were issued to them under Section 13(2) of Securitization and Re-construction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 on their last known addresses, but they have been returned unserved and as such they are hereby informed by way of this public notice.

Name and Address of the Borrower : Sri. R. Saravana Kumar S/o. Late G. Ranganathan, BMP No. 3, 4th Cross, Opp. to Silicon Towers, Byrasandra, C.V. Raman Nagar, Bangalore-560093. **Also at : (i)** Flat No. 303, 2nd Block, Vivek Paradise, 2nd Cross, Chowdeshwari Temple Street, Byrasandra, C.V. Raman Nagar, Bangalore-560093. **(ii)** Flat No. 303, 3rd Floor, Block II, "VIVEK PARADISE", Byrasandra, C.V. Raman Nagar, Bangalore-560093.
Name and Address of the Gaurantor : Smt. K. Tilagavathy D/o. Sri G. Kanakaraj, No. 57/1, Kadirena Palya, Indiranagar Post, Bangalore-560038.
Account No. : HL 30486025031
Demand Notice: 02.12.2025 **NPA Date : 26.06.2025**
Amount outstanding (As on the date of notice) : Rs. 15,54,310/- (Rupees Fifteen Lakh Fifty Four Thousand Three Hundred Ten Only) as on 30.11.2025. You are also liable to pay further interest at the contractual rate from 01.12.2025 on the aforesaid amount together with incidental expenses, cost, charges, etc.
Description of the Immovable Property : Schedule A Property : All that piece and parcel of the property bearing Bangalore Mahanagara Palike Katha No. 13/2-1, situated at Byrasandra, C.V. Raman Nagar, Bangalore, measuring 43,155 Sq. feet and **bounded on : East by :** Property of Sri. B.E. Krishna Murthy, **West by :** Property of Sri. Sampangappa and Sri. Govindappa, **North by :** Property of Sri. Sampangappa, 20 feet Road and B.E. Krishnamurthy and B.E. Chandrashekar and Smt. Rathnamma, **South by :** Property of Sri. M. Kempanna.
Schedule B Property : 553 Sq.feet undivided interest in the immovable property mentioned in Schedule A above i.e, proportionate to the Super Built up Area.
Schedule C Property : Flat bearing No. 303 in Third Floor, Block II measuring 1915 Sq. feet Super Built Up Area along with 100 Sq. feet of Terrace Ares, containing Three Bedrooms, Hall, Dining, Kitchen and Toilets with RCC Roofing, Mosaic Flooring and Honne Wood Doors and Windows, together with One Covered Car Parking Space including proportionate share in common areas such as Passages, Lobbies, Staircase and Lift, to be constructed on Schedule A Property known as "VIVEK PARADISE", **standing in the name of Sri. R. Saravana Kumar S/o. Late G. Ranganathan.**
Sale Deed dated 26.09.2008 has been registered in favour of Sri. R. Saravana Kumar S/o. Late G. Ranganathan in Book No. 1 under Document No. KRI-1-02790-2008-09 stored in CD No. KRID319 at the Office of Sub Registrar, Krishnarajapura, Bengaluru on 26.09.2008.
The steps are being taken for substituted service of notice. The above Borrower/Mortgager/Gaurantor are hereby called upon to make payment of outstanding amount mention above within 60 days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which further steps will be taken after expiry of 60 days from the date of this notice under sub-section (4) of Section 13 of Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security interest Act, 2002.
The borrower/mortgager/Gaurantor attention is invited to provisions of Sub-section (8) of Section 13 of the Act, in respect of time available to redeem the secured assets.

Date : 02.12.2025 **Sd/- Authorised Officer, State Bank of India**
Place : Bengaluru **Home Loan Centre, HSR Layout, Bengaluru**

केनरा बैंक Canara Bank
(A Government of India Undertaking)

Canara Bank,
ARM Branch I
2nd Floor, No. 86, Spencers Tower, M.G. Road, Bangalore-560001.

SALE NOTICE

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Properties under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with provision to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged /charged to the Secured Creditors, the possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of Canara Bank, will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" on basis on **17.01.2026 (10.30 AM to 11.00 AM),** [with unlimited extension of 5 minutes duration each till the conclusion of sale], for recovery of **Rs. 61,27,637.19** (Rupees Sixty One Lakhs Twenty Seven Thousand Six Hundred and Thirty Seven and Paise Nineteen Only) plus further interest thereon from 01.12.2025 and other expenses due to Canara Bank from **Mr. Raghu Patil** S/o. Shivanagouda & **Mrs. Asha .K .S** W/o. Raghu Patil.
The Earnest Money shall be Deposited by way of E-Wallet of **M/s. PSB Alliance Private Limited (https://baanknet.com/)** portal directly or by generating the Challan therein to deposit the EMD through RTGS/NEFT in the account details as mentioned in the said challan on or before **16.01.2026, 5.00 pm.** **(Rs. in lacs)**

Lot	Description of the immovable/ movable assets	Reserve Price	EMD	Incremental value Rs.
1	**Schedule 'A' (Description of the entire property) :** All the piece and parcel of the residentially converted land being Southern portion of land bearing Sy No. 41, measuring 30 guntas, assigned with BBMP Khatha No. 310/41/1 (18647 sq feet) and BBMP Khatha No. 310/41 measures (14023 sq feet) situated at Vajarahalli Village, Uttarahalli Hobli, Bengaluru south Taluk, Bengaluru. **bounded on the : East by :** Property belonging to Bangalore City Co-Operative Housing Society Ltd., **West by :** 30 ft. Road, **North by :** 40 ft Road, **South by :** 40 ft Road. **Schedule 'B' :** 297 Sqft of Undivided share in the Schedule "A" property together with all rights attached thereto. **Schedule 'C' :** Residential Apartment bearing Block "B" Flat No. B 201 situated on the Second Floor of "MAHAGHAR'S VAJRA", measuring 1025 sq feet of built up area together with one covered car parking area in the basement constructed on BBMP Khatha No. 310/41/1 which measures (18647 Sq feet) located in schedule-'A' property **bounded on the : East :** Property Belonging to Bangalore City Co-operative Housing Society Ltd., **West :** Corridor, **North :** 40 Ft Road, **South :** Flat No B 202. **Owner of the property: Mr. Raghu Patil.**	**34.00**	**3.40**	**1.00**

Known encumbrances, if any: Not to the knowledge of the Bank.
For detailed terms and conditions of the sale please refer the link "E-Auction" provided in Canara Bank's website **(www.canarabank.com)** or **E-Wallet of M/s. PSB Alliance Private Limited (https://baanknet.com/)** portal and may contact **ARM-1 Branch, Bengaluru, Canara Bank, Ph. No. 9901642631 and 9535093706** during office hours on any working day.

Date: 29.12.2025 **Sd/- Authorised Offier**
Place: Bangalore **Canara Bank**

BANGALORE WATER SUPPLY AND SEWERAGE BOARD

INVITATION FOR TENDER - 2nd CALL
(only through KPP-Portal)

BWSSB invites Tenders from Registered Contractors for the following works.

Office of the Chief Engineer (East), 6th Floor, Cauvery Bhavan, K. G. Road, Bangalore-560009.

Division	IFT Number	Amount put to Tender / EMD Amount	Last date & time for Submission of Tender	Date & Time for Opening of Tender
(EAST)-1	BWSSB/EE(EAST)-1/ PB/3990/2025-26 Date: 24.12.2025 (Reserved for Category-I)	Rs.12,83,117/- / Rs.16,100/-	06.01.2026 upto 4:00 PM	08.01.2026 after 5:00 PM

Sd/- Executive Engineer (EAST)-1

The detail regarding the tender & participation in the e-procurement portal process can be obtained by logging on to **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** For further details contact the abovesigned office during working hours.
DIPR/CP/4711/SSC/2025-26

Indian Overseas Bank
Residency Road Branch, Janardhan Towers
Bengaluru- 560025, Karnataka. Email ID: iob0268@iob.in

PUBLIC NOTICE FOR E- AUCTION FOR SALE OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTIES

Sale of immovable properties mortgaged to Bank under Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002(No.54 of 2002)

Whereas, the Authorized Officer of **Indian Overseas Bank** has taken possession of the following properties pursuant to the notice issued under Section 13(2) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 in the following loan account with right to sell the same on, **AS IS WHERE IS BASIS and AS IS WHAT IS BASIS** for realization of Bank's dues plus interest & costs as detailed hereunder and whereas consequent upon failure to repay the dues, the undersigned in exercise of power conferred under Section 13(4) of the said Act proposes to realize the Bank's dues by sale of the said properties. The sale will be done by the undersigned through e-auction platform provided at the **Web Portal https://BANNKNET.in**

Name & address of the Borrower:Mrs.Pushpa Latha Nemelipuri, C/o.T.Krishna Rao,No.53-38-7, 4F-4,Sivakarthik Residency, KRM Colony,Seeta Mandhana, Urban Visakhapatnm, A.P 530013. **And also at:** C/o.T.Krishna Rao,Flat No.102, P No: 137,Pranav Arcade,Siddartha Nagar,Hyderabad-500038

Date of NPA: 15.01.2025 . Date of Demand notice: 16.01.2025

Dues claimed in Demand Notice:**Rs.2,46,24,876/- (Rupees Two Crores Forty Six Lakhs Twenty Four Thousand Eight Hundred and Seventy Six Only)** as on 16.01.2025 with further interest & costs. . **Date of possession notice: 08.04.2025**

Dues claimed in Possession Notice: Rs.2,53,97,440/- (Rupees Two Crores Fifty Three Lakhs Ninety Seven Thousand Four Hundred and Forty Only) as on 08.04.2025 with further interest & costs less repayments,if any, made after issuance of demand notice.

Outstanding dues as on 28.12.2025isRs.2,75,13,145.86/- (Rupees Two CroresSeventy Five lakhs Thirteen Thousand One Hundred Forty Five and Eighty Six Paise only)along with further interest at contractual rates and rests, besides costs / charges incurred till the date of repayment in full.

*Local Self Government (Property Tax, Water sewerage, Electricity Bills etc.): Not known

DESCRIPTION OF THE IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

SCHEDULE "A" PROPERTY: All that piece and parcel of the property bearing site No.57, BBMP Katha No.57, PID No.II 82-25-57, situated at Binnamangala 2nd stage, Bangalore measuring East to West 40 Feet, North to South 60 Feet, totally measuring 2400 Sq.ft with all rights appurtenances whatsoever hereunder of underneath or above the surface and bounded on the :**Boundaries**: East by: Site No-56,West by : Site No-58,North by : Site Nos. 49 & 50, South by: Road.
SCEDULE "B" PROPERTY: 456 Sq.ft undivided right, title and interest in the immovable property mentioned in schedule 'A' above.
SCEDULE "C" PROPERTY (Description of the Apartment): Flat bearing No.P-2, in the Fourth Floor measuring about 2083 Sq.ft super built up area, containing Three Bedrooms and with one covered Car Parking in Stilt Floor, together with RCC Roofing, Vitrified flooring together with proportionate share in common areas such as passages, lobbies, staircase etc., in the multistoried residential building known as SAI ENCLAVE constructed over Schedule A property.

S. No.	Property Details	Reserve Price	Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)	Bid Increase Amount
1	Immovable Property as mentioned above	**Rs.2,20,00,000/- +Applicable TDS which is 1%**	**Rs.22,00,000/-**	**Rs.1,00,000/-**

Date & Time of auction: 16.01.2026 between 11 a.m. and 1 p.m
Auto extension time: 10 minutes . Known Encumbrance if any: NIL.
Inspection Date& Time: during office hours from 10:00 AM till 05:00 PM, from from 31.12.2025 – 14.01.2026
***Bank's dues have priority over the statutory dues. For terms and conditions please visit: https://www.iob.in/e-Auctions.aspx https://www.publishtenders.gov.in https://BANNKNET.in/bidder-registration(web portal of e-auction Service provider)**

Date :29.12.2025 Sd/-Authorised Officer
Place:Bengaluru **INDIAN OVERSEAS BANK**

QuoteExpress **IF YOU'RE GOING THROUGH HELL, KEEP GOING** › WINSTON CHURCHILL

A man stabbed a woman in broad daylight at Malappuram in Kerala on Monday morning for allegedly after a failed romantic relationship. The incident occurred around 10am. Police identified the accused as P S Ashwin, 28, hailing from Nallepilly in Palakkad

DRDO tests 120-km range Pinaka rocket

HEMANT KUMAR ROUT
@ Bhubaneshwar

ADDING more teeth to its fire power, India on Monday conducted the maiden flight test of Pinaka long-range guided rocket (LRGR) from a test facility off Odisha coast. Defence sources said the rocket was tested by the Proof and Experimental Establishment (PXE) for its maximum range of 120 kms demonstrating all in-flight manoeuvres as coordinated.

"The LRGR impacted on the target with textbook precision," the Ministry of Defence said in a statement. The guided Pinaka has been developed by Pune-based Armament Research and Development Establishment (ARDE) in association with High Energy Materials Research Laboratory, Hyderabad-based Research Centre Imarat and Defence Research and Development Laboratory.

The rocket was fired from a multi-barrel rocket launcher. The rocket launcher can fire 12 rockets with high explosives and destroy a large area at a time. The quick reaction time and high rate of fire of the system will give an edge to the Army during a low-intensity conflict situation.The mission objectives were successfully met. All the radars, electro optical and telemetry systems at Chandipur-based Integrated Test Range tracked and monitored the weapon all through the flight path.

President sends back University of Madras Bill

BINITA JAISWAL@Chennai

PRESIDENT **Droupadi Murmu** has returned the University of Madras (Amendment) Bill to the Tamil Nadu government, dealing a fresh blow to the DMK government's efforts to assert greater control over the administration of state-run universities. The decision brings back into focus the long-running tussle between the State government and governor over the appointment of Vice-Chancellors in state universities.

The bill, passed by the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly in April 2022, sought to amend the University of Madras Act by transferring the power to appoint and remove the Vice-Chancellor from the Governor, who serves as the ex-officio Chancellor of the university, to the State government. By replacing the term "Chancellor" with "Government" in the Act, the State aimed to make the elected government the final authority in matters of academic leadership.

Governor RN Ravi had reserved the bill for the President's consideration, citing concerns that the proposed changes could be at odds with University Grants Commission (UGC) regulations and established norms governing Vice-Chancellor appointments. "With the President now returning the bill without granting assent, as per rules the State will again have to reconsider the legislation," said an official from the higher education department.

The higher education department officials were tight-lipped over the details of the explanation given by the President's office for returning the Bill. The return of the bill comes amid an ongoing leadership vacuum in 14 state universities out of total 22. Several institutions, including the University of Madras, one of India's oldest universities, are currently functioning without regular Vice-Chancellors and are being run by convenor committees.

"Absence of permanent leadership has affected academic planning, research approvals and administrative functioning," said a professor in the varsity. The DMK government has repeatedly blamed the Governor for this situation, accusing him of sitting on files.

Sabarimala gold theft case: Ex-TDB member held

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ T'Puram

THE SIT probing the Sabarimala gold theft cases has arrested a former Travancore Devaswom Board member on the charge of fabricating documents and aiding in gold heist resulting in loss of gold artefacts belonging to the hill shrine. The SIT remand report filed before the Kollam court accused Vijayakumar of conniving with former TDB president A Padmakumar, who is now in judicial custody, to conduct the subterfuge.

Vijayakumar reportedly conspired with the co-accused to fabricate documents by marking the gold-sheeted copper plates as mere copper plates. He was also involved in taking the decision to handover the gold-plated sheets to the main accused, Unnikrishnan Potty, under the pretext of renovation works, the report said. N Vijayakumar, who was a member of the TDB during 2019, was arrested after he turned up before the SIT office at Eachakkal. Vijayakumar had earlier moved an anticipatory bail plea before the Kollam Vigilance Court, which was later withdrawn, sources said.

The sources added that the accused decided to turn up before the investigators at the behest of his family members and friends. He reportedly conveyed to the sleuths that he was under immense mental pressure and claimed innocence. The SIT found that by fabricating documents, the accused began giving wings to their fraudulent scheme. The accused, including Vijayakumar, had a good relation with Potty and that made matters easier for them.

A SIGHT TO BEHOLD

Lord Venkateswara Temple decorated with flowers ahead of Vaikunta Ekadasi in Tirumala on Monday | EXPRESS

EXPRESS READ

2 women from T'gana die in US road mishap

Mahbubabad: Two women from Mahbubabad district in Telangana were killed in a car accident in Ohio in the US while returning from a trip with their friends. The incident took place in Bishop city in California state. The deceased were identified as P Meghana Rani (25), a resident of Garla mandal headquarters, and K Bhavana (24), a resident of Mulkanoor in district. Nageshwar, the father of Meghana, stated that his daughter and Bhavana studied in the same school and college. After completing their graduation, they both went to the USA to pursue MS at the University of Dayton in Ohio. After their MS, they were hunting for jobs.

Two arrested for raping, impregnating woman

Chennai: A 21-year-old man has been arrested and a juvenile detained by the Kelambakkam All Women Police Station personnel for repeated rape of a woman with intellectual disability. The alleged crime came to light on Sunday after the 21-year-old woman was found to be three months pregnant. The suspects are D Sakthivel, a sewage treatment plant operator, and a 17-year-old daily wager. Both are from Chengalpattu district. The woman with intellectual disability (50%) lives with her family in a village near Chengalpattu. As her mother leaves for work daily, the victim is often home alone.

ONE DEAD AS 2 BOGIES OF ERNAKULAM EXPRESS CATCH FIRE

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Visakhapatnam

ONE passenger died after a fire broke out in the Tatanagar–Ernakulam Express near Elamanchili in Anakapalle district in the early hours of Monday. Authorities identified the deceased as Chandrasekhar Sundar, 70, a cloth merchant from Vijayawada.

The Anakapalle district police said the fire broke out around 12.45 am when the train approached Elamanchili railway station. Flames engulfed the B1 and M2 AC coaches, located behind the pantry car. The loco pilot noticed the blaze, halted the train at Elamanchili station and alerted the fire brigade.

Anakapalle Superintendent of Police (SP) Tuhin Sinha responded immediately and deployed police teams and fire-fighting personnel to the spot. Fire services personnel from Anakapalli, Elamanchili and Nakkapalli worked for several hours to bring the fire under control. Railway staff evacuated more than 150 passengers travelling in the two AC coaches. Despite the evacuation effort, one passenger could not escape in time. The victim, was travelling on berth No. 12 of the B1 coach.

After 3.30 am, railway officials removed the two burnt coaches and began rearranging passengers. Railway authorities detached the affected B1 and M2 coaches and removed one additional AC III Tier coach, M1, as a precautionary measure.

The SP said railway police found a large sum of cash in the bag belonging to the deceased. In the presence of Chandrasekhar Sundar's family members, officials opened the bag and recovered ₹5.80 lakh, with several currency bundles partially burnt.

Andhra Pradesh CM Chandrababu Naidu, Home Minister Vangalapudi Anitha and Standing Committee on Railways Chairperson and Anakapalle MP CM Ramesh expressed grief.

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, DEPARTMENT OF SPACE
U R RAO SATELLITE CENTRE
CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE GROUP
HAL Airport Road, Bangalore - 560 017
(Phone : 080 25084184, 4156)
BRIEF E-TENDER NOTICE

Description	Details
Name of work	Construction of Temporary Classroom at KV NAL School, Bengaluru.
E-Tender Notice No.	URSC/C&MG/C/M/27/2025-26, Dt. 26/12/2025
Estimated cost put to Tender	₹ 15.42 Lakhs
Period of completion	Two Months
Earnest Money Deposit (EMD)	₹ 30,840/- (Validity for 180 days)

Interested tenderers may please refer Detailed Notice Inviting E-Tender (NIET) for eligibility criteria and other details along with Hindi version in website: **www.isro.gov.in** and download the tender documents from **www.tenderwizard.com/ISRO**

Sd/-
Group Director, C&MG, URSC

Canara Bank, ARM - I Branch
2nd Floor, No. 86, Spensar Tower, M.G. Road, Bangalore-560001.

POSSESSION NOTICE [Section 13(4)] (For Immovable property)

Whereas the undersigned being the Authorised Officer of the **Canara Bank Bengaluru SPECIALISED ASSET RECOVERY MANAGEMENT BRANCH– 1 (2366) Branch** under Securitisation And Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 (Act 54 of 2002) (hereinafter referred to as "the Act") and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13 (12) read with Rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002, issued a Demand Notice 13(2) dated **25.09.2025** calling upon the **Borrower/s : 1. M/s. Bio Point India Pvt Ltd., 2. Mr. Aniketan U P (Managing Director), 3. Amulya N S (Director),** 502, 12th Main, MSR Enclave, Near Nagasandra Metro Station, Nagasandra, Bangalore 560073. **Guarantors : 1. R Manjula,** 502, 12th Main, MSR Enclave, Near Nagasandra Metro Station, Nagasandra, Bangalore 560073. **2. Ananya U P,** S32, Deccan Terrace, 8th Main, Malleswaram, Bengaluru 560003, **3. B R Siddesh,** No. 3163, 10th Main Road, 3rd Cross, MCC Block, Southern Division, Devanagere-577004. **4. K N Umesh,** 502, 12th Main, MSR Enclave, Near Nagasandra Metro Station, Nagasandra, Bangalore 560073 to repay the amount mentioned in the notice, being **Rs. 24,70,88,497.78/-** (Rupees Twenty Four Crores Seventy Lakh Eighty Eight Thousand Four Hundred Ninety Seven And Paisa Seventy Eight only) plus interest and charges thereon within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrower having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him / her under section 13 (4) of the said Act, read with Rule 8 & 9 of the said Rule on this **24.12.2025 (24th day of December 2025).**

The borrower in particular and the public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealings with the property will be subject to the charge of **Canara Bank** for an amount of **Rs. 24,86,54,688.44/-** (Rupees Twenty Four Crores Eighty Six Lakh Fifty Four Thousand Six Hundred Eighty Eight And Paisa Forty Four only as on 23.12.2025 plus interest and charges thereon.

The borrower's attention is invited to the provisions of Section 13 (8) of the Act, in respect of time available, to redeem the secured assets.

DESCRIPTION OF THE MOVABLE & IMMOVABLE PROPERTY : 1. Mortgage of converted land bearing Sy No. 26/8 measuring 2 acres 35 guntas located at Metikurke village, Hiriyur Taluk, Chitradurga District, Standing in the name of M/s Bio Point India Pvt. Ltd., and **bounded by : East :** LA NO. 276 land, **West :** Land of B Thippamma, **North :** LA No 276 land, **South :** LA - HI 2 land. **Title Holder : M/s. Bio Point India Pvt. Ltd.,**

2. Mortgage of Residential- cum – Commercial building Situated at Site No 502 (Sy No. 14), 12th Main BBMP Khata No 14, situated at Nagasandra, MSR Enclave, Ramaiah Layout, Nagasandra Post, Bengaluru 560076 with a 70 by 70 site = 4900 sft dimension and built up area PF 16300 sft with 3 and a half Floors of Carpet area wherein 2 floors of Commercial space (Rented out) and 3 shops (Rented Out) with this a 5500 sft of self-used residence space and **bounded by : East :** 30 ft Road, **West :** Water Tank and Site No. 535, **North :** Site No 503, South : 30 ft road. **Title Holder : Mr K N Umesh and Mrs R Manjula.**

3. Mortgage of Flat No S-3, 2nd Floor having present BBMP PID No. 7-20-48/6-8 measuring 1585 sft., situtated at Deccan Terrace, Site No 48/6, 8th Main, 13th Cross BBMP Ward No.65, Malleshwaram, Bengaluru and **bounded by : East :** Plot No. V(2), **West :** 8th Main Road, **North :** Private Proprty, **South :** Plot No. IV. **Title Holder : Mrs Ananya U P.**

4. Mortgage of Commercial land and Building Situated at No 472/1, 7th Main, 7th Cross, 5th Ward, 9th Division, PJ Extension, Davangere measuring 2600 sft and bounded by : East : House of Smt. Chandramma com Jayanna, West : 7th Main Road, North : Common Passage and thereafter Property of Sri. Mallikarjunaswamy, South : Road. **Title Holder : Mr B R Siddesh**.

Date: 24.12.2025
Place: Bangalore

Sd/- Authorised Officer
Canara Bank

PUBLIC NOTICE

Our client/s has/have negotiated to purchase the property scheduled below, from its present owner Mr. B.N. Kaleemulla S/o. Mr. A. Naseer Ahmed, R/at No. 75, Gangadhar Nagar, Sarakki Gate, Kanakapura Main Road, Bengaluru-560 078. We are investigating his title on behalf of our client/s.

Objections to the proposed transaction and claims, if any, in relation to the schedule property, may be lodged with the undersigned in writing, with the supporting documents, within TEN (10) days, from the date of the publication of this notice, failing which, our client/s will proceed to conclude the sale transaction.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the immovable property, being the agricultural land bearing **Sy. No. 230/2 (old Sy. No. 230), measuring about 2 acres and 1 gunta of kharab,** situated at Goduru Village, Maralavadi Hobli, Harohalli Taluk (earlier Kanakapura Taluk), Ramanagaram District, now Bengaluru South District and bounded as follows:

East by : Land belonging to Smt. Nalini Bali
West by : Government Ooni
North by : Land belonging to Smt. Nalini Bali
South by : Anekal Road

Place: Bengaluru
Date: 29.12.2025

J. RANGA RAJAN,
S.N. RAVEENDRA, H.T. RANGE GOWDA
J.R. ASSOCIATES, Advocates
No. 1/5, Jinka Plaza, 1st floor, 6th Cross, Gandhinagar, BENGALURU-560 009

GOVERNMENT OF KARNATAKA
ZILLA PANCHAYAT BELAGAVI
EXECUTIVE ENGINEER,
PANCHAYAT RAJ ENGINEERING DIVISION, CHIKODI
Email :preckdee@gmail.com Office Phone No: 08338-272131,

No.PRE/CKD/Db/kppp/2025-26/6307 Date: 24-12-2025

Kppp-SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION

On behalf of Governor of Karnataka, State, Item Rate (Technical bids and Financial bids through E-Mode), E-Bids are invited for the following works through standard tender document KW-1, KW-2, KW-3, KW-4 (Standard Tender Document) from the eligible Contractors, registered in P.R.E. Department, & with kppp registration Bangalore, on "turn-key", basis only.

1]Last date of request for issue of blank E-bid document through e-Procurment Date: Other works:24-12-2025 To 05-01-2026,2]Bid Closing & submission Date: Other works:05-01-2026 AT 04:00 PM,3]Tender Opening Date: Other works: 07-01-2026 AT 11:00 AM,4]Pre Bid Meeting Date: [KW-3 & 4 Works Only]:03-01-2026 AT 05:00 PM,5]Techanical Bid Opening Date: [KW-3 & 4 Works Only]:07-01-2026 AT 11:00 AM,6]Financial Bid Opening Date: [KW-3 & 4 Works Only]:09-01-2026 AT 11:00 AM

General Works Indent No's:21551, 20820, 21031, 20989, 17004, 19499, 21086, 21090, 19211, 21021, 21515, 21512, 21508, 21510, 21110, 21788, 21790, 21635, 20261, 21906, 21904, 21911, 21917, 16478,SC Works Indent No's:21264, 21887, 21946, ST Works Indent No's:21509, 21265, 21919,Category 1 Works Indent No's:21908, Category 2A Works Indent No's:20918, 21784, 21791,

For further details, the agencies may contact the office of the undersigned, during office hours, or may visit web site: https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in/

Sd/-Executive Engineer
P.R.E. Division, Chikodi.

DIPR/BGM/RO-NO-1544/KSMCA/2025-26

PUBLIC NOTICE

We have been called upon to carry out the due diligence in respect of the immovable property bearing No.777, BBMP assigned PID No.72-4-777, now assigned E-PID No.1132358111, measuring East to West 126 + 116 / 2 Feet and North to South 61 Feet, totally admeasuring about 7381 Sq. Ft., in BBMP Ward No.89-Jogupalya, situated at Binnamangala 2nd Stage, Paramahansa Yogananda Road (Double Road), Indiranagar, Jogupalya, Bangalore 560038, together with the residential house constructed thereon comprising of Ground Floor, Mezzanine Floor and First Floor in all admeasuring a built-up area of 3128 Sq. Ft., the said land and the building being more fully described in the Schedule appearing hereunder, which our Client has negotiated to purchase from its Owners **(1) Mr. A.K. NANDA KUMAR, also known as Aliyala Krishna Nandakumar,** aged about 70 years, Son of late Mr.A.S.Krishnamoorthy, resident of Cleveland Road, Chestnut Hill, MA 02467 - 1417 and **(2) Mr. A.K. SHIVA KUMAR, also known as Alliyalamangalam Krishnamoorthy Shiva Kumar,** aged about 69 years, Son of late Mr.A.S.Krishnamoorthy, resident of Golf Apartments, Sujan Singh Park, Lodhi Road, New Delhi – 110 003.

The Owners have represented that they have lost / misplaced the Allotment Letter bearing No. B4 / 777-B.M.L. II/ 73-74, dated 10.08.1973 and the Memo (Possession Certificate) dated 28.08.1973, both issued by the office of the City Improvement Trust Board, Bangalore, to their mother late Mrs.Padmini Krishnamoorthy.

KNOW ALL MEN BY THIS PUBLIC NOTICE that Any Person/s, Financial Institution/s, Bank/s, Third Party/s, General Public or Body Corporate having any right, title, claim or interest or charge, etc., in whatsoever manner over the Schedule Property and/or any Objection/s with regard to the proposed sale transaction, may lodge their claim and / or objection, if any, as the case may be, with supporting documents to the undersigned in person, within **Fifteen (15) days** from the date of publication of this Public Notice, failing which our client would proceed with the said transaction and it shall be deemed that there are no claims or objection whatsoever, and/or the same has been waived.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of the immovable property bearing No. 777, BBMP assigned PID No. 72-4-777, now assigned E-PID No.1132358111, in BBMP Ward No.89-Jogupalya, situated at **Binnamangala 2nd Stage, Paramahansa Yogananda Road (Double Road), Indiranagar, Jogupalya, Bangalore 560038,** measuring East to West **126 + 116 / 2 Feet** and North to South **61 Feet,** totally admeasuring about **7381 Sq. Ft.,** or thereabouts, together with all rights, appurtenances whatsoever whether underneath or above the surface and bounded as follows:

East by : Property bearing No.771 and 772 **West by : Road**
North by : Property bearing No.778 **South by : Property bearing No.776**

Together with the residential house constructed thereon comprising of Ground Floor, Mezzanine Floor and First Floor in all admeasuring a built-up area of 3128 Sq. Ft., with Mosaic Flooring and Jungle wood doors and windows, together with electricity and water connections.

Hudson Samuel & Partners, Advocates,
(Manjunath.B)
Sir Cariappa Wing, First Floor, Devatha Plaza, Residency Road, Bangalore – 560 025
Email: manjunath@jhsp.in Tel: +9180 22212308 / 22244125

POSSESSION NOTICE

Whereas, the authorized officer of **Jana Small Finance Bank Limited** under the Securitization And Reconstruction of Financial Assets And Enforcement Of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13 (2) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules 2002 issued **demand notices** to the borrower(s)/ Co-borrowers(s) calling upon the borrowers to repay the amount mentioned against the respective names together with interest thereon at the applicable rates as mentioned in the said notices within **60 days** from the date of receipt of the said notices, along with future interest as applicable incidental expenses, costs, charges etc. incurred till the date of payment and/or realisation.

Sr. No.	Loan No.	Borrower/ Co-Borrower/ Guarantor/ Mortgagor	13(2) Notice Date/ Outstanding Due (in Rs.) as on	Date/ Time & Type of Possession
1	32999440000270 45389670000476 & 31879410000611	1) M/s. Mahi Industries, Proprietor Mrs. Manoja K, 2) Mrs. Manoja K, Proprietor of M/s. Mahi Industries, Also at: M/s. Mahi Industries, 3) Mr. Manohar Reddy K	25.09.2025 Rs.18,34,212.45 (Rupees Eighteen Lakh Thirty Four Thousand Two Hundred Twelve and Forty Five Paisa Only) dues as on 22-09-2025	Date: 24.12.2025 Time: 04:30 PM Symbolic Possession

Description of the Property: All that piece and parcel of the property bearing Eastern Portion No.21, Assessment No.50, Katha No.259 situated at Kammagondanahalli Village, Yeshwanthapur Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, Bangalore, measuring East to West: 20-0 (Twenty) Feet North to South: 30-0 (Thirty) Feet in all total measuring total 600 Sq.ft. and **Bounded on: East by:** Property No.15, **West by:** Remaining Portion of same property belongs to M Bheemraj's Property, **North by:** Property No.20, **South by:** 20 Feet Road.

Whereas the Borrower's/ Co-Borrower's/ Guarantor's/ Mortgagors, mentioned herein above have failed to repay the amounts due, notice is hereby given to the Borrower's mentioned herein above in particular and to the Public in general that the authorised officer of **Jana Small Finance Bank Limited** has **taken possession** of the properties/ secured assets described herein above in exercise of powers conferred on him under Section 13(4) of the said act read with Rule 8 of the said rules on the dates mentioned above. The Borrower's/ Co-Borrower's/ Guarantor's/ Mortgagors mentioned herein above in particular and the Public in general are hereby cautioned not to deal with the aforesaid properties/ Secured Assets and any dealings with the said properties/ Secured assets will be subject to the charge of **Jana Small Finance Bank Limited.**

Place: Bangalore
Date: 30.12.2025

Sd/- Authorised Officer,
For Jana Small Finance Bank Limited

JANA SMALL FINANCE BANK (A Scheduled Commercial Bank)
Registered Office: The Fairway, Ground & First Floor, Survey No.10/1, 11/2 & 12/2B, Off Domlur, Koramangla Inner Ring Road, Next to EGL Business Park, Challaghatta, Bangalore-560071.

सेन्ट्रल बैंक ऑफ़ इंडिया
Central Bank of India

Bangalore Regional Office: Second floor, Grand Majestic Mall, No-12, 2nd Cross, Gandhi Nagar, Bengaluru – 560 009.

NOTICE INVITING TENDER

Ref No RO: :BANG:BSD: 2025-26:EBID:02/1 Date: 05.12.2025

The Central Bank of India invites tenders from eligible bidders for "Proposed furnishing work of Interiors of HSR Layout Branch". For a detailed Notice Inviting Tenders, visit the webpage - https://www.centralbankofindia.co.in/en/active-tender AND / OR on https://centralbank.abcprocure.com/EPROC/

The deadline for submission of tenders is **31.12.2025** up to **4:00 pm.**

Regional Head, Regional Office

KONKAN RAILWAY CORPORATION LIMITED
(A Government of India Undertaking)

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER

Chief Commercial Manager, Konkan Railway Corporation Limited, invites Open Tender under Two-packet system through E-Tendering on IREPS portal from competent and financially sound parties for "Marketing and Operations of Roll-On-Roll-Off (RORO) service over Konkan Railway between Kolad and Surathkal stations, for a period of one year extendable by another one year. **Tender Notice No: CO-16011-3-2023-COMM-2025, Dated 26.12.2025. Closing Date/Time for submission of online offers**: 27.01.2026 up to 15:00 hrs. Manual offers shall not be accepted. Please visit **www.ireps.gov.in** website for details/participation. Corrigendum/addendum, if any, will be hosted in this website only.

ಜಿಲ್ಲಾ ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ಧಾರವಾಡ
ಕಾರ್ಯನಿರ್ವಾಹಕ ಇಂಜಿನೀಯರರು,
ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ರಾಜ್ ಇಂಜಿನೀಯರಿಂಗ್ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಧಾರವಾಡ – 580001.
ದೂರವಾಣಿ: 0836–2442316 ಇ–ಮೇಲ್: zpeddwd@rediffmail.com

ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: ಪಂ.ರಾ.ಇಂ.ವಿ.ಧಾ/ಸ.ಇಂ.–2/2025–26/3766 ದಿನಾಂಕ: 29–12–2025

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ಕರ್ನಾಟಕದ ಗೌರವಾನ್ವಿತ ರಾಜ್ಯಪಾಲರ ಪರವಾಗಿ ಕಾರ್ಯಪಾಲಕ ಇಂಜಿನೀಯರ್, ಪಂಚಾಯತ್ ರಾಜ್ ಇಂಜಿನೀಯರಿಂಗ್ ವಿಭಾಗ, ಧಾರವಾಡ ಇವರಿಂದ ಸರ್ಕಾರಿ ಆದೇಶ ಸಂಖ್ಯೆ: No.FD 876 Exp-12/2017, Bangalore, Dated: 15-09-2017 ರನ್ವಯ ಈ ಕೆಳಗಿನ ಕಾಮಗಾರಿಯ ಐಟಂವಾರು ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ನ್ನು ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರ್‌ಮೆಂಟ್ ಮುಖಾಂತರ ನಿಗದಿತ ನಮೂನೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ಪಂ.ರಾ.ಇಂ. ಇಲಾಖೆಯಲ್ಲಿ ನೋಂದಾಯಿಸಲ್ಪಟ್ಟಿರುವ ಅರ್ಹ ಗುತ್ತಿಗೆದಾರರಿಂದ ಸ್ಟ್ಯಾಂಡರ್ಡ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ಡಾಕ್ಯೂಮೆಂಟ್ಸ್ KW-4 ರಲ್ಲಿಯ ನಿಬಂಧನೆಗೊಳಪಟ್ಟು ಕರ್ನಾಟಕ ಸಾರ್ವಜನಿಕ ಸಂಗ್ರಹಣೆಗಳಲ್ಲಿ ಪಾರದರ್ಶಕತೆ ಆದೇಶ 2000 ರನ್ವಯ ಇ–ಪ್ರೊಕ್ಯೂರಮೆಂಟ್‌ನ **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in** ನಿಂದ ಟೆಂಡರ್ ದಾಖಲೆಗಳನ್ನು ಡೌನ್‌ಲೋಡ್ ಮಾಡಿಕೊಂಡು ಟೆಂಡರ್‌ಗಳನ್ನು ಸಲ್ಲಿಸಬಹುದು.

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ಸಹಿ/– (ಆರ್.ಎಂ. ಸೊಪ್ಪಿಮಠ)
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ವಾಸಾಸಂ/ಧಾರವಾಡ/1040/ಅಡ್ಡಟೋರ್/2025–26

EDITORIAL

A right is not what someone gives you; it's what no one can take from you — Ramsey Clark

INDIAN EXPRESS IS NOT AN INDUSTRY. IT IS A MISSION.

— Ramnath Goenka

JUSTICE CANNOT FAIL RAPE SURVIVORS OVER LEGAL TECHNICALITIES

THE Supreme Court on Monday stayed the Delhi High Court's order suspending Kuldeep Singh Sengar's sentence in the Unnao rape case, stating that substantial questions of law have arisen. The Court was careful to maintain institutional balance. The Chief Justice acknowledged that the HC judges who passed the order are among the finest, while observing that courts, like all institutions, are fallible. Yet the concern during the hearing was unmistakable: reading the Protection of Children from Sexual Offences Act in a way that treats a 'constable or patwari' as a 'public servant', while excluding an 'MP or MLA' risks an outcome that neither reflects the purpose of the law nor accords with social reality.

The difficulty stemmed from the HC's narrow reading of 'public servant' under POCSO Act, relying on the Indian Penal Code definition and rejecting the trial court's use of the Prevention of Corruption Act, which includes legislators. Even if the aggravated offence under Section 5(c) of POCSO was inapplicable, the finding of penetrative sexual assault of a minor remained. The appellate court could have examined whether other provisions, including Section 376(2)(b) of the IPC, which deals with abuse of a dominant position, independently warranted a life sentence. The Solicitor General flagged this gap, noting that Section 42A of the POCSO Act requires punishment under the law prescribing the harsher sentence where multiple statutes apply. More broadly, the submissions underlined that sexual crimes by those wielding authority are treated as aggravated because of power imbalance, not formal labels. Indian courts have consistently held that suspension of a life sentence should be exceptional, since conviction ends the presumption of innocence and such relief is justified only by a clear and serious error.

The human context cannot be ignored. The survivor's family faced sustained threats, culminating in the custodial death of her father, for which Sengar was separately convicted. Rape is an abhorrent crime that demands the severest response of the law. Clarity in charging and sentencing, especially where dominance and coercion are evident, is essential. What is troubling in the High Court order is the lack of a fuller exploration of legal alternatives once a technical doubt was identified. If a defect was perceived, all possible routes to preserve accountability should have been examined. By staying the order, the Supreme Court has signalled that technical readings cannot eclipse justice, survivors or public faith.

POLLUTION FIGHT NEEDS BROADER ODISHA EFFORT

DELHI-NCR's dangerous air quality has dominated national headlines, but Odisha is quietly moving up the AQI ladder. Last week, four urban centres in the east breached the 300 mark. In the process, these locations even overtook the national capital, which had seen a short-lived improvement in air quality.

Balasore recorded a PM2.5 level of 338, while Angul and Talcher followed with 321. Baripada too fell into the 'very poor' AQI category, with a reading of 301. These figures raise troubling questions. Angul and Talcher lie in one of eastern India's major coal belts and host thermal power plants, heavy industries and extensive mining operations. Their consistently poor air quality is largely the result of industrial pollution, mining operations and the heavy movement of vehicles. Baripada, however, does not fit this pattern and remains difficult to explain. Located near a 2,475 sq km tiger reserve, the town has limited industrial presence and lacks the scale of automobile traffic or construction activity seen in cities such as Bhubaneswar and Cuttack. That a relatively small urban centre is recording such high pollution levels should be treated as a warning sign.

Odisha's rising pollution levels have not yet prompted the political or administrative urgency seen in the national debate around Delhi. This is an opportune moment for the state government to commission a rigorous scientific assessment of pollution trends and hotspots. The state action plan on climate change and human health for 2022–27 has already noted an increase in acute respiratory infections and influenza-like illnesses. But the real impact of pollution on public health can be understood only if hospital data and long-term health studies are opened up for serious research. As industrial growth accelerates, pollution may remain a major challenge. Industrial belts already record higher levels of air pollution, pointing to gaps in regulation and enforcement. Alongside this, dust from construction sites and the burning of municipal waste require urgent and sustained attention. Urban local bodies need to strictly enforce the rules and penalise repeat offenders. At the same time, tackling pollution requires a broader effort—encouraging cleaner modes of transport, raising public awareness, making real-time air quality data easily accessible, and issuing clear health advisories when pollution levels rise. Without these measures becoming routine, air pollution will remain an escalating threat rather than a manageable problem.

QUICK TAKE

NO PING ZONE

SUPRIYA Sule, MP, recently introduced a private member's bill in Parliament—Right to Disconnect Bill, 2025—to rethink how Indians engage with work. When smartphones blur office hours into dinner conversations, the Bill taps into rising demands for work-life balance, privacy, and peace of mind at home. It correctly recognises that being 'always on' chips away at sleep, health and relationships; even for the most driven professionals. To ensure compliance, it proposes penalties. It redraws boundaries between labour and life by giving employees the right to switch off after work without fear. Where living rooms double as workstations, its message is: work should have an end, so life can have space.

In today's world, India remains an outlier. Regional challenges and a focus on autonomy define how it engages globally, balancing influence with restraint & long-term caution

INDIA'S OUTLIER PHASE AND THE PATH FORWARD

LT GEN SYED ATA HASNAIN (RETD)

Former Commander, Srinagar-based 15 Corps; Chancellor, Central University of Kashmir

SOURAV ROY

THE assertion that 'in a new multipolar world, India is an outlier' is an uncomfortable one, particularly for those who have long viewed India as an ascendant strategic power. Yet discomfort has value. It forces introspection, challenges assumptions and sharpens analysis. This article is not a rebuttal driven by sentiment, but an inquiry into whether India's global positioning has limits—and if so, whether those limits are structural, self-imposed or transitional.

For much of the past two decades, India has been described—by itself and by others—as a rising power. Economic growth, demographic weight, military modernisation, and diplomatic reach have reinforced this belief. Yet recent developments invite a more sober assessment. India's uneven visibility in Indo-Pacific deliberations, its absence from key Middle East peace initiatives, and a growing tendency among global powers to see India as important but not central raise legitimate questions about how India is positioned in today's strategic order.

India's strategic culture has always prized autonomy. During the Cold War, non-alignment preserved independence. In the post-Cold War unipolar moment, India avoided entanglement. Today, in a multipolar system, it continues to resist alliance. This instinct has served India well. It has allowed policy flexibility, insulated decision-making from external pressure, and prevented premature commitments.

But autonomy also carries costs. Global power management—particularly by the US—favours predictability and alignment. India offers convergence, not compliance. It is therefore valued, consulted and courted; but not always embedded at the centre of coalition politics. This creates a paradox: India is strategically significant, yet operationally peripheral in certain theatres.

In effect, India has chosen to remain outside rigid power blocs. That choice preserves sovereignty, but it also limits the roles others expect India to play.

This tension is most visible in the Indo-Pacific. India is geographically central to the Indian Ocean, militarily capable, and essential to any long-term balance against China. Yet the Indo-Pacific narrative remains dominated by East Asian flashpoints—Taiwan, the South China Sea, and alliance management in the Western Pacific. India's threat perception differs. Its security challenges are dual: maritime competition in the Indian Ocean and persistent continental confrontation along the northern borders. This divided focus limits India's ability to concentrate strategic energy eastwards. While the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue underscores India's importance, New Delhi has ensured it remains consultative rather than a military alliance, reflecting a refusal to subordinate priorities to escalation dynamics shaped by others.

India's absence from recent Middle East peace initiatives—particularly around Gaza—has similarly fuelled perceptions of marginality. Yet, this interpretation confuses visibility with influence. India has never sought a mediatory role in active conflict zones. It lacks the coercive leverage, financial inducements, or military presence that mediation demands—and it has consciously avoided acquiring them.

India's engagement with West Asia is built on political acceptability across divides, economic interdependence, energy security, diaspora protection and historic goodwill. These interests are best served through stability, not protagonism. To mistake restraint for irrelevance is to misunderstand India's strategic temperament. India is present in the region; it simply does not perform theatric diplomacy.

Where the critique gains traction is closer home. India's global bandwidth remains constrained by an unsettled regional environment. Two nuclear-armed adversaries, an unresolved continental confrontation with China, persistent proxy conflict with Pakistan, and internal security commitments continue to absorb attention. These are not episodic distractions but enduring realities. Historically, States that shape global outcomes do so from positions of regional equilibrium. India does not currently enjoy that condition. Its diplomacy, military planning, and political focus are repeatedly drawn back to the subcontinent. This constraint is not a failure of ambition, but a consequence of geography and history. The experience of Operation Pawan remains instructive. Poorly conceptualised, ambiguously mandated and inadequately terminated; it did more than strain relations with Sri Lanka. It created deep institutional aversion to regional military entanglement alone.

Within these constraints, India has begun to adapt—not by seeking global dominance, but by expanding influence through selective, low-risk domains. Humanitarian assistance and disaster response have emerged as one such avenue.

This should not be misread as a substitute for hard power or diplomacy. Rather, it is an instrument that allows India to remain engaged despite unresolved regional tensions. Disaster response confers legitimacy without alignment, presence without intimidation, and leadership without coercion.

Importantly, it also avoids the political minefields that doomed earlier interventions. It builds trust, familiarity, and operational cooperation without entangling India in the domestic politics of neighbouring states.

That this approach has found resonance in South Asia and the Indian Ocean region is not accidental. It reflects a region where vulnerability, not ideology, is the common denominator.

Seen in totality, India's so-called 'outlier' status is less a verdict than a phase. We are not absent from global affairs; we are just being selective. And India is not declining in relevance; it is redefining how relevance is exercised.

The real strategic challenge ahead lies in converting autonomy into initiative—moving from principled restraint to selective leadership. That transition will require greater regional stability, enhanced expeditionary confidence, and a clearer articulation of where India intends to lead, rather than merely where it chooses to abstain.

For those raised on a strong diet of patriotism and strategic optimism, such introspection can feel unsettling. But realism does not make us unpatriotic. It prepares us for contingencies.

India's rise has not stalled—but it has encountered friction. Understanding that friction, rather than denying it, is essential if India is to move from being an indispensable power to an agenda-shaping one. In a multipolar world, not all influence is exercised loudly. Some of it is accumulated patiently within constraints, until conditions permit ambition to expand.

That moment may not yet have arrived. But recognising why is the first step towards ensuring that it does.

(Views are personal)

(atahasnain@gmail.com)

FERTILE POLITICS, FAILED DEBATE

C P SURENDRAN

Author whose latest volume of poetry is *Window with a Train Attached*

ON January 5, the Congress party will launch 'save MGNREGA' movement. The rural poor need all the help they can get. MGNREGA was enacted in 2005 and has helped millions. Yet, a generation later, why is that part of India not in reasonable shape?

I believe the battle over MGNREGA is, by default, political. The Bharatiya Janata Party seeks to claim another mantle of beneficence, while the Congress refuses to relinquish its legacy. Both are indirectly admitting that they have failed in their mission to improve village life substantively.

The scheme guarantees 100 days of unskilled manual work per year to every rural household. Wages vary by state: Haryana pays the highest daily wage (₹374), while Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh pay the lowest (₹234). Wages are funded entirely by the Centre, with material and administrative costs shared with the states.

Crucially, these wages are not equivalent to state-mandated minimum wages, which are higher. In Kerala, for instance, the minimum wage for construction work can exceed ₹1,000 a day. This explains why the Bilaspur Express arrives weekly in Kerala, crammed with aspirants from Chhattisgarh. This migration persists despite the ever-present risk of violence, as witnessed in the recent lynching of migrant labourer Ram Narayan.

The BJP-led government is not formally 'repealing' the scheme—though it may consider excising Mahatma Gandhi from its name for political reasons. The Modi administration prefers to build parallel welfare systems, exemplified by the PM-KISAN, which provides direct cash transfers.

The popular narrative, however, suggests a simple swap is imminent—a misreading. The confusion begins with equating MGNREGA's value with PM-KISAN's ₹6,000 grant. MGNREGA is a wage programme; its annual potential is the state-specific daily wage multiplied by 100 days.

The work, in theory, involves creating public assets like ponds and roads. In practice, it is often meaningless—how many ponds can one village dig? Are new roads being built gratuitously? Are the old ones finished? Is there reliable audit? A misplaced sense of grandiosity prevents us from categorising necessary tasks like caring for the elderly, clearing waste or planting trees as 'work'. So perhaps we end up digging the same ponds.

In contrast, PM-KISAN's ₹6,000, is a fixed annual income supplement for land-owning farmers, not a wage. To mistake it for a substitute is to argue that a *jugaad* is the real thing.

MGNREGA primarily serves rural households demanding manual labour. PM-KISAN supports land-owning farmer families. While their clientele overlaps for small farmers, a critical mass of India's poorest—the landless labourer—qualifies for MGNREGA but is excluded from PM-KISAN. Presenting cash transfers as a blanket replacement ignores this demographic chasm.

EXPRESS

> A fundamental dispute over welfare has driven the shift from a rights-based approach to a benefit-transfer model, attractive for its direct political credit. Yet neither approach explains rural India's stunted development, despite repeated assurances of progress

Politically, the discourse has been simplified into a partisan clash. The Congress frames the threat as outright abolition. The BJP's rhetoric dismisses MGNREGA as a monument to Congress-era corruption while touting the 'efficiency' of direct bank transfers.

The true confrontation, however, is subtler. The government is not deleting MGNREGA from the statute books—that would be counterproductive. Instead, it is pursuing a strategy of parallel construction and asphyxiation by neglect. Politically, it pays to slowly choke a Congress-credited scheme rather than execute an immediate beheading.

Equally importantly, it allows for the erection of a new welfare edifice stamped with the BJP's lotus symbol—or the face of Narendra Modi. A direct benefit transfer (DBT) means total control over the freebie.

This model has administrative elegance: money moves from the treasury directly to a bank account, minimising bureaucratic intermediaries. Simultaneously, MGNREGA is likely to be subjected to budgetary constraints, chronic payment delays, and a narrative that paints it as a wasteful dole. The objective is not repeal but gradual marginalisation—making the DBT model so dominant that the work-based alternative seems anachronistic.

Here lies the ideological heart of the conflict: a fundamental disagreement on the nature of welfare itself. MGNREGA is born from a philosophy of rights and public goods. It guarantees a 'right to work', affirming the state's role as an employer. But the work itself is often redundant.

The DBT model champions digital efficiency and individual agency. Its appeal lies in its simplicity and its direct line of political credit from the central government to the citizen, bypassing layers of local governance. The source, power, and credit are centralised. So, potentially, are the votes of the indebted—as happened in the recent Bihar elections, where women received ₹10,000 in their accounts from the prime minister's office.

What is at stake is not the exchange of one sum for another, but the supplanting of one model of governance with another. It has its attendant dangers. Yet the real question remains unaddressed. After all these years, why have rural India schemes failed to generate economies of scale and create productive jobs?

The Congress party blames colonial exploitation; writers like Shashi Tharoor have almost mythologised the notion of a (very) rich eighteenth-century India. The BJP, in turn, blames not only the Congress but also the British and the Mughals for India's arrested development. For them, true freedom began much more recently, around 2014.

The debate over MGNREGA is, in a profound sense, false. But it is the stuff of politics. The real debate is whether India has failed its destiny in its villages. I believe it has. Ask Ram Narayan.

(Views are personal)

(cpsurendran@gmail.com)

MAILBAG

WRITE TO: letters@newindianexpress.com

Marital courtship

Ref: *SC flags dowry's deep roots* (Dec 29). The Supreme Court's ruling rightly exposes how dowry survives through social consent as much as due to weak enforcement. Law alone cannot uproot a practice sustained by pride, fear, and misplaced notions of status. Equal partnerships in marriage must be taught early and enforced firmly.

K Sakunthala, Coimbatore

Dowry abuse

Dowry system disproportionately affects women, reinforcing entrenched gender inequality and systemic discrimination. Societal pressure and cultural norms continue to sustain such practices, hindering their eradication. Despite strong legal provisions, dowry-related demands persist, resulting in severe physical, psychological, and emotional abuse of women.

M P Vanishree, Bengaluru

Civic pulse

Ref: *T'gana await poll storm in new year* (Dec 29). Local body elections are just the right time to feel the pulse of the electorate. A positive outcome surely gives a moral boost to the public. Civic amenities, unlike major issues, demand undivided attention and routine supervision.

Sachidananda Satpathy, Sambalpur

Inner peace

Ref: *Wisdom of detachment* (Dec 29). Inculcating the value of action without attachment makes the message both practical and eternal. In this fast moving 'consumer-centric' era, being 'Avadhuta' is complex. However, true peace comes from inner detachment; not external success.

Ajay Rajeev, Alappuzha

Politicising borders

Ref: *BSF rejects B'desh claims* (Dec 29). Borders should not become convenient excuses for political narratives. When unverified claims are floated without formal communication or evidence, they only weaken trust between nations and confuse the public. Security agencies exist to protect facts, not headlines. Blaming cross-border movement also risks criminalising communities living along the border.

Aditya Kamble, Kalaburagi

Self-serving leaders

Ref: *Digvijaya backtracks* (Dec 29). There are politicians who serve only themselves and look for greener pastures to send out feelers. Politicians committed to the people are rare. People must be wary of such politicians.

Elizabeth Koshy, Pathanamthitta

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POSTS OF THE DAY

Sachin Pilot @SachinPilot

Any attempts to dilute the definition for short-term gains must be firmly opposed, and a transparent, science-based approach to defining the Aravalli Hills must be ensured.

Saket Gokhale @SaketGokhale

You have to be a whole new level of shameless to make a condolence call on the speakerphone & film it while speaking to the family of a young man murdered over his identity.

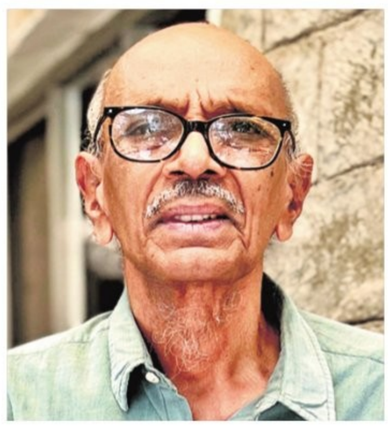
Amit Malviya @amitmalviya

Bengal is not a battle for power for us. For us, Bengal is a battle to protect civilisation. If India has to be saved, Bengal must be saved.

- Prof C R Babu says redefining the region undermines key role as regional aquifer
- M K Pandit says different states define boundaries differently, creating confusion

'Aravalli should be defined in terms of geology than height'

PROFESSOR **C R Babu** is a leading environmentalist and ecologist from the University of Delhi, known for restoring degraded landscapes and biodiversity across the Aravalli region. Having explored the Aravallis across four states, the Professor Emeritus at Centre for Environmental Management of Degraded Ecosystems of DU explains its ecological impact and possible solutions with **Jitendra Choubey**. **Excerpts**:



What was the previous definition of the Aravallis, and how has the Supreme Court changed this definition?

The Aravalli range has never had a precise definition comparable to the Himalayas or the Vindhyas, as it is an ancient geological landform shaped over billions of years by weathering and erosion. Estimated to be around 3.2 billion years old, it is far older than the Himalayas. The Aravallis largely exist as ranges, though in many states they appear as low hills or scattered boulders.

In Delhi, especially around Mehrauli area, they survive mainly as isolated boulders, while extensive mining has erased large sections in Haryana. Rajasthan, particularly around Udaipur, retains more prominent hill formations, though areas like Ajmer are largely boulder-dominated.

What do you think of November 20 definition of the Aravallis given by the Supreme Court?

It was entirely unscientific. I believe that the Aravalli should be defined in terms of geology rather than height. During my work as a member of the Western Ghats Ecology Expert Panel, we defined the Western Ghats based on geological characteristics and not just elevation.

The Supreme Court's November 20 decision was ecologically untenable. I wonder how a judgment could operationalise mining while leaving areas above 100 meters intact. It appeared to be designed for mining and development purposes.

Based on your conservation work, how do the Aravallis function ecologically, and how would mining affect them?

The Aravallis act as a natural barrier, slowing the spread of the Thar Desert toward the Gangetic plains, and recharging aquifers. The Aravallis have immense potential for recharging groundwater, estimated to produce about 2 million liters/hectare of the landscape. Because Aravalli aquifers are interconnected, any disruption can destabilise the groundwater system, worsening drought in the already water-stressed Delhi-NCR. Proposed open-cast mining, not underground extraction, would cause irreversible damage—destroying habitats, fragmenting wildlife corridors used by leopards and hyenas, and degrading scrub forests and native tree cover vital for reptiles, pollinators, and grassland birds. Redefining the Aravallis also undermines their crucial role as a regional aquifer.

One side the government is proposing mining in the Aravallis, while it is creating green wall on the other?

It is ironic that while the government is proposing massive open-cast mining in the Aravalli region, it is simultaneously creating a green wall to restore it. Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated this wall, which is a commendable effort to rehabilitate the area. However, allowing open-cast mining will not only destroy existing vegetation, but also prevent new plants from surviving. In this situation, our green wall is bound to fail. Open-cast mining will also accelerate the advancement of the Thar Desert towards the Gangetic plains.

How can India balance development with conservation of the Aravalli region?

The current approach to mining in the Aravalli region is certainly not the solution. We are completely neglecting the natural ecological functions of the Aravalli landforms. This could ultimately jeopardise the Gangetic plains, which have been the food bowl of our country for centuries. It is crucial to strike a balance in the development process. Limited and scientifically regulated mining could meet our needs without harming the environment.

Verbatim

'Aravallis among the oldest mountain systems in world'

AFTER public outrage, the Supreme Court stayed November 20 order on the Aravalli mountain range, saying only hills with a height of 100 metres or more would be considered as part of the range. The 2010 Forest Survey of India report states only 8% of the nearly 12,000 hills in Rajasthan are higher than 100 metres. If such hills are excluded from the Aravalli range, questions arise about their legal and ecological protection, **M K Pandit,** former head of geology department at the University of Rajasthan, tells **Rajesh Asnani**. **Excerpts**:

How do you see the uproar over the November 20 order in the context of the environmental health of the Aravallis?

The Aravalli range is a protective shield for North India. Its total length is about 692 km, of which nearly 80%—around 550 km—lies in Rajasthan. Of the state's total hills, only 1,048 are more than 100 metres high, meaning about 8.7% qualify under the new definition. Without the Aravallis, many rivers in North India would not exist. Forests, plant species, minerals, and invaluable ecological assets would be lost.

According to internal FSI data, Rajasthan has 12,081 hilly areas with elevations above 20 metres. The Aravallis prevent desertification, recharge groundwater, and convert rainwater into seasonal rivers. They act as a barrier against dust storms and hot winds from the west. In essence, the Aravallis are the lifeline of Rajasthan, central to its water security, climate regulation, and ecological balance.

Why has illegal mining continued for decades?

Illegal mining thrives due to collusion. Different states define Aravalli boundaries differently, creating confusion about permissible mining zones. This ambiguity allows the mining mafia to exploit loopholes.

When and why did the Supreme Court intervene?

In 1992, environmentalist M C Mehta approached it against illegal mining in Delhi's Aravalli region. In 1996, illegal construction was banned, followed by a mining ban in Delhi-NCR in 2002. In 2009, mining was prohibited across the Aravalli districts, and action was ordered against illegal operators in Rajasthan and Haryana. In March 2024, the court directed the formation of a panel under the environment ministry. A Central Empowered Committee was formed that May. The SC accepted its recommendations on November 20.

Why did the court adopt the 100-metre criterion?

The concept traces back to American geologist Richard Murphy (1968), who suggested that landforms above 100 metres qualify as mountains. Rajasthan adopted this formula for its mining policy in 2003. The MoEFCC committee accepted this criterion, along with recommendations for scientific mapping, impact assessments, and bans in sensitive areas.

Does the height include slopes?

Yes. A mountain includes the peak and all surrounding slopes—steep or gradual—up to where they end.

What about smaller hills between two 100-metre peaks?

If two Aravalli hills of 100 metres or more are within 500 metres of each other, they are treated as a single unit. All intervening land, including smaller hills, valleys, and mounds, is also protected, preventing mining or construction in between.

The government claims most Aravalli areas are already protected. Is this right?

Yes. Mining is prohibited in reserved forests, wildlife sanctuaries, national parks, and eco-sensitive zones. Legal mining is limited to mineral-rich zones. The greater concern remains illegal mining. Union Minister Bhupender Yadav has stated that only 0.19% of the total Aravalli area is under legal mining.

How critical is the Aravalli range for wildlife?

Extremely critical. The Aravallis host 22 wildlife sanctuaries and three tiger reserves. Species like leopards, hyenas, jackals, nilgai, porcupines, and numerous birds depend on this ecosystem. Sanctuaries like Ranthambore, Sariska, Mukundra owe their existence to the Aravallis.

ARAVALLIS

Will provide full support to expert panel: Yadav...

JITENDRA CHOUBEY @ New Delhi

UNION Minister of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change Bhupendra Yadav on Monday welcomed the Supreme Court's decision to stay its order on definition of the Aravalli hills, and said the government stands committed to the protection and restoration of the mountain range.

The apex court kept in abeyance the directions in its November 20 verdict that had accepted a uniform definition of the Aravalli hills and ranges recommended by a committee of the ministry of environment, forest and climate change. It also proposed to constitute a high-powered committee comprising domain experts to undertake an exhaustive and holistic examination of the issue.

"I welcome the Supreme Court directions introducing a stay on its order concerning the Aravalli range, and the formation of a new committee to study issues.

We stand committed to extending all assistance sought from MOEFCC in the protection and restoration of the Aravalli range," Yadav said in a post on X. "As things stand, a complete ban on mining stays with regard to new mining leases or renewal of old mining leases," he added.

The top court on November 20 accepted a uniform definition of the Aravalli hills and ranges and banned the grant of fresh mining leases inside its areas spanning Delhi, Haryana, Rajasthan and Gujarat until experts' reports are out. The ministry's committee had recommended that 'Aravalli hill' be defined as any landform in designated Aravalli districts with an elevation of 100 metres or more above its local relief, and an 'Aravalli range' will be a collection of two or more such hills within 500 metres of each other.

Civil society organisations also welcomed the Supreme Court's interim stay. The Aravalli Virasat Jan Abhiyaan (AVJA), a group of people and environmentalists working to protect the Aravallis across four states, expressed their approval of the stay. In a statement, AVJA raised concerns about the opaque process of expert committees determining what constitutes the Aravalli.

We remain committed to providing any assistance requested from the Ministry in the protection and restoration of the Aravalli range.

Bhupendra Yadav, Environment Minister

Civil society organisations welcome order

Civil society organisations also welcomed the interim stay. The Aravalli Virasat Jan Abhiyaan (AVJA), a group of environmentalists working to protect the Aravalli across four states, expressed their approval. They advocated for a fully participatory, transparent process to study the environmental impacts.

... Cong seeks resignation of environment minister

PREETHA NAIR @ New Delhi

WELCOMING the Supreme Court's decision to stay its November 20 order on the new definition of the Aravalli range, the Congress on Monday sought the resignation of Union Environment Minister Bhupender Yadav, saying all his arguments in favour of the redefinition have been rejected.

In a post on X, Congress general secretary Jairam Ramesh said that in light of the Supreme Court's latest order, the environment minister must resign immediately. "The SC order is a rejection of all the arguments he has been giving in favour of the redefinition," he said.

On Sunday, Ramesh wrote to Yadav saying that the government's move will lead to fragmentation and undermining of the geographical and ecological integrity of the entire mountain range. Posing four specific questions to the government, the Congress leader pointed out that there are widespread concerns regarding the redefinition of the Aravalli hills, which restrict them to landforms with an elevation of 100 metres or more.

"The Indian National Congress welcomes the directives given by the Supreme Court on the redefinition of the Aravallis being pushed through by the Modi government," Ramesh said.

The order gives a "flicker of hope", but the struggle to save the Aravallis from the "machinations of the Modi government" to open it up to mining, real estate, and other activities will have to be resisted in a sustained manner, he added. "The issue is now to be studied in greater detail. It needs to be recalled that the redefinition has been opposed by the Forest Survey of India, the Central Empowered Committee of the Supreme Court, and by the amicus curiae himself," he said.

The Supreme Court kept in abeyance the directions in its November 20 verdict that had accepted a uniform definition of the Aravalli hills and ranges recommended by a committee of the environment ministry. It also proposed to constitute a high-powered committee comprising domain experts to undertake an exhaustive and holistic examination of the issue.

The committee had recommended that Aravalli hill be defined as any landform in designated Aravalli districts with an elevation of 100 metres or more above its local relief, and the Aravalli range will be a collection of two or more such hills within 500 metres of each other.

Long-Range Guided Rocket Ammunition for Pinaka Launch Rocket will be purchased.

Defence ministry gives go-ahead for ₹79,000 cr arms buy for 3 services

MAYANK SINGH @ New Delhi

New hardware to help tackle drone threat

Low-Level Light-Weight Radars will detect and track small, low-flying Unmanned Aerial System. While Integrated Drone Detection & Interdiction System Mk-II with enhanced range will protect the vital assets of the Indian Army in the Tactical Battle Area and Hinterland

THE Defence Acquisition Council (DAC), chaired by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, cleared the procurement of defence hardware worth ₹79,000 crore for the three services on Monday.

"During the meeting, Acceptance of Necessity (AoN) was approved for the procurement of Loiter Munition System for Artillery Regiments, Low Level Light Weight Radars, Long Range Guided Rocket Ammunition for Pinaka Multiple Launch Rocket System, and Integrated Drone Detection & Interdiction System Mk-II for the Indian Army," the Ministry of Defence said in a statement.

Loiter munition will be used for precision strikes on tactical targets, whereas Low-Level Light-Weight Radars will detect and track small, low-flying Unmanned Aerial Systems. Long-Range Guided Rockets will enhance the range and accuracy of Pinaka MRLS, enabling effective engagement of high-value targets. Integrated Drone Detection & Interdiction System Mk-II with enhanced range will protect the vital assets of the Indian Army in the Tactical Battle Area and Hinterland. For the Navy, AoN was accorded for the procurement of Bollard Pull Tugs, High Frequency Software-Defined Radios Manpack and for leasing High Altitude Long Range Remotely Piloted Aircraft System. Induction of BP Tugs will assist Naval ships and submarines in berthing, unberthing and maneuvering in confined waters/harbor. The HF SDR will enhance long-range secured communication during boarding and landing operations.

For the Indian Air Force, AoN was approved for the procurement of Automatic Take-off Landing Recording System, Astra Mk-II Missiles, Full Mission Simulator and SPICE-1000 Long Range Guidance Kits etc. Induction of the Automatic Take-off Landing Recording System will fill the gaps in the aerospace safety environment by providing high-definition, all-weather automatic recording of landing and take-off. Astra Mk-II Missiles will boost the capability of the fighter aircraft to neutralise adversary aircraft from large standoff range.

The DAC serves as the highest decision-making body on defence policy and capital procurement.

House panel discusses transition to G-RAM-G in 6 months

PREETHA NAIR @ New Delhi

IN the first meeting of a parliamentary panel after the passage of the new act during the recently concluded winter session of Parliament, smooth transition from the rural job scheme MGNREGA to the new VB-G RAM G, payments to the beneficiaries, and the additional budgetary support for the scheme, were some of the issues discussed.

The Parliamentary Standing Committee on Rural Development and Panchayati Raj Committee examined various aspects of the UPA-era rural job guarantee law, MGNREGA, which has now been replaced by the Modi government's VB-G RAM G Act, and how to move ahead in the next six months for a smooth transition to the new legislation.

Sources said several members raised concerns about ways to be adopted in the next six months for a smooth transition when the government shifts work policies from MGNREGA to the Viksit Bharat-Guarantee for Rozgar and Ajeevika Mission (Gramin) Act (VB-G RAM G).

During the meeting, the secretary of the Ministry of Rural Development gave a presentation on the MGNREGA. According to the presentation, sources said, except for Delhi and Chandigarh, MGNREGA is implemented in 741 districts, covering 2.69 lakh gram panchayats with 12.15 crore active workers.

Sources said opposition also questioned how payments would be made to beneficiaries during the next six months and how additional budgetary support would be arranged.

Committee Chairperson and Congress leader Saptagiri Ulaka said the members discussed various aspects of MGNREGA threadbare and how to go about in the next six months, as the new law will be implemented only when the rules are framed. He said that the members intend to discuss MGNERGA in the Budget session too, and for all these, there was a briefing session from the Ministry of Rural Development.

'It's not true that members supported new law'

Committee Chairperson Saptagiri Ulaka said the members also discussed whether MGNREGA was still alive or not. It was said that the law would be in existence for six months. "It's not true that members supported the VB-G RAM G. Many issues came up, but everything can't be made public. The meeting was about MGNREGA, what is the stance and what is going to be its future," he said.

BUSTED

The Navi Mumbai police have busted an illegal recruitment agency allegedly involved in cheating people with the promise of lucrative jobs overseas, an official said on Monday.

1 DEAD AS TRUCK TOPPLES ONTO SUV IN UP'S RAMPUR

INDIA	Max	Min		Max	Min
Ahmedabad	28	16	Mumbai	28	23
Bhopal	25	09	Panaji	30	19
Jaipur	24	10	Patna	17	11
Amritsar	18	07	Lucknow	19	09
Chennai	29	23	Port Blair	29	26
Kolkata	22	13	Imphal	21	08
Srinagar	09	01	Chandigarh	19	07

Halt applies to cases where software records conflict with hard copy of 2002 rolls ● Home minister to discuss Matua issue, seek SIR feedback

EC pauses SIR hearings for Bengal 'unmapped' voters

SUBHENDU MAITI @ Kolkata

IN a fresh round of instructions, the Election Commission (EC) has directed district magistrates (DMs) who have been engaged in the ongoing special intensive revision (SIR) of electoral rolls in West Bengal as district electoral officers (DEOs) not to issue notices for hearings to voters who have been identified as 'unmapped.'

The poll panel has also exempted voters who are 85 years old or more from appearing for hearings at centres, among others. West Bengal Chief Electoral Officer (CEO) Manoj Agarwal said, "People who are 85 years or more, persons with disabilities (PwD) and pregnant women of any age who have been served notices by the commission need not come for hearings. Booth-level officers (BLOs) will contact them and meet them at their doorsteps to verify their documents required to include their names on electoral rolls."

More than 32 lakh voters who could not trace themselves, their parents or grandparents in the electoral rolls during the last SIR in 2002 in the state have been asked to appear for the hearings that kicked off on December 27.

The national poll body paused the hearings for voters whose names figured in the hard copies of the 2002 electoral rolls but could not be found on its central software system.

A source in Agarwal's office said, "Though hearing notices may have been generated from the central software system for such cases, these electors should not be called for hearings. The hearing notices so generated in such cases need not be served. Instead, they must be kept with the electoral registration officer (ERO) or assistant electoral registration officer (AERO)."

However, the halt in the exercise does not apply to 'unmapped' cases flagged by EROs after on-ground verification.

Meanwhile, the Election Commission may hold a meeting with electoral officers of various districts in West Bengal with the state CEO and his officials on Tuesday to discuss its earlier proposals for the setting up of polling stations inside private housing complexes with high-rise buildings.

People get their documents verified at a school during a hearing in Kolkata | PTI

Elderly, PwD and pregnant women exempted

The poll panel has exempted voters who are 85 years old or more from appearing for hearings at centres, among others. West Bengal CEO Manoj Agarwal said, "People who are 85 years or more, persons with disabilities and pregnant women of any age who have been served notices by the commission need not come for hearings. Booth-level officers (BLOs) will contact them and meet them at their doorsteps."

Roll observer's car attacked during hearings

SUBHENDU MAITI @ Kolkata

THE car of the Election Commission's Special Roll Observer (SRO) in West Bengal was on Monday attacked by a group of women protesting against the ongoing special intensive revision (SIR) of electoral rolls.

The handle lock of C Murugan, an IAS officer of Bengal cadre, was badly damaged in the attack when he was coming out of a hearing camp near a BDO office at Sirakol in South 24 Parganas district. The agitators blocked the exit route of the SRO's vehicle and thumped on the car bonnet and window glasses with police personnel desperately trying to get the protesters out of the way by forming a cordon, officials said. Police managed to control the situation within around half an hour. "As an IAS officer, I will not be cowed down by any kind of agitation. The Election Commission has assigned me a job and I will carry out its instructions," Murugan said.

The incident happened nearly 24 hours after Trinamool Congress national general secretary Abhishek Banerjee asked his party's booth-level agents to ensure that not a single bona fide voter's name is removed from the final electoral rolls. The area where the SRO's car was attacked comes under Abhishek's Diamond Harbour Lok Sabha constituency.

Shah reaches Kolkata, will stay put for 3 days to firm up poll strategy

SUBHENDU MAITI AND PRASANTA MAZUMDAR @ Kolkata/Guwahati

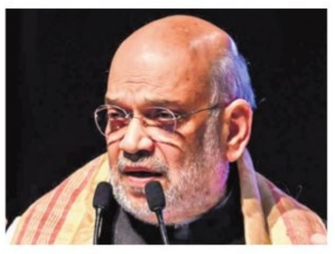
UNION home minister Amit Shah reached Kolkata on Monday night to hold BJP's organisational meetings for three days in West Bengal, where assembly elections are in April-May next year.

"We had a plan to organise a rally where Amitji would be requested to address the crowd but he prefers to hold organisational meetings with our party leadership, including our MPs, MLAs and others, during his stay for three days till Wednesday," a BJP leader said, requesting not to be named.

"He wants to focus on our party's organisational set-ups this time as assembly polls are a few months away. He may also be interested in getting important inputs on the SIR process," the leader added.

Shah will discuss the Matua issue, the leader said. Name of some Matuas have been excluded from the voters' lists in Nadia and North 24 Parganas districts, two strongholds of the BJP, following the first phase of the SIR. Violence broke out between two rival Matua groups, belonging to BJP MP and union minister of shipping Shantanu Thakur and Trinamool Congress Rajya Sabha MP Mamatabala Thakur, at Thakurnagar, administrative headquarter of the Matua community, after names of nearly one lakh Matua voters were deleted from the electoral rolls.

Earlier in the day, addressing a gathering in Assam's Nagaon district, Shah slammed the Congress for allegedly encouraging infiltration and announced that the BJP would drive out the "infiltrators" not just from Assam but from across the country.



'Will drive out every infiltrator from India'

After inaugurating the ₹227-crore redeveloped Batadrava Than, the birthplace of 15th-16th century Vaishnavite saint-reformer Srimanta Sankardeva in Nagaon, Shah declared, "The BJP's resolve is to drive out every infiltrator not just from Assam but from across the country."

MUMBAI DIARY

SUDHIR SURYAWANSHI
Our correspondent in Maharashtra
suryawanshi.sudhir@gmail.com

Maha Cong chief firm on ideological stand

Everyone was surprised when the Congress high command appointed the low-profile Harshvardhan Sapkal as the state Congress president. Without fanfare, he is trying to make the Congress as the main opposition and ideological force in the state. His predecessors had tried hard to stitch an alliance with Dalit leader Prakash Ambedkar, but Sapkal made it after a gap of 25 years. He also cemented an alliance with Mahadev Jankar's Rashtriya Samaj Paksha. He was firm against a tie-up with Raj Thackeray for the BMC polls despite Shiv Sena (UBT) leader Sanjay Raut's persuasion to Rahul Gandhi. Sapkal is making decisions, not influenced by Sharad. Pawar.

Shinde Sena bargains for bigger pie in polls

The regional allies of the BJP often face difficulties in maintaining their position of strength. Shinde-led Sena, however, is playing hardball with bigger ally BJP. Shinde fielded more candidates against the BJP in local body polls when alliance talks failed. Winning 53 Nagar Parishad president posts, Sena maintained a better success ratio. In BMC seat sharing, Shinde forced the BJP to concede 80 seats against the initial offer of 50 in the 227-member BMC polls. He is bargaining hard for Navi Mumbai Municipal Corporation polls. Even if Shinde secures 50% seats it contests in BMC poll, he will play a key role in Mumbai power politics.

Pawar-Adani bonhomie at Baramati AI centre

NCP chief Sharad Pawar and his family were effusive in their praise for industrialist Gautam Adani. The industrialist inaugurated the Sharadchandra Pawar Centre for Excellence in Artificial Intelligence in Baramati, and the function looked like an extended Pawar-Adani family function. Rohit Pawar, grandnephew of the NCP chief, went to the airport to pick Adani and drove him to the venue. Supriya Sule called Adani her elder brother and said he scolded her when she made mistakes. Adani and his wife showered praise Pawar Sr. After the function, Ajit Pawar dropped Adani off at the airport.

UP BJP rift over Brahmin MLAs meet out in open

NAMITA BAJPAI @ Lucknow

THE BJP in UP seems to be a divided house over a recent meeting of party's Brahmin MLAs and MLCs in Lucknow. State party chief Pankaj Chaudhury warned the lawmakers against holding such caste-based meetings, which he said will be deemed as an act of indiscipline. UP deputy CM Keshav Maurya and other leaders, however, saw nothing wrong in such meetings.

On December 23, when the Assembly winter session was on, about 50 Brahmin MLAs of the BJP from Purvanchal and Bundelkhand met at the Lucknow residence of party's Kushinagar legislator Panchanand Pathak on the occasion of his wife's birthday. According to sources, after the meeting, CM's OSD Sarvan Baghel called Pathak to enquire about the matter. Pathak told him that it was not a political meeting and that he had organised a community feast. Chaudhury issued a statement saying such caste-based meetings were against the Constitution. Deputy CM Maurya differed: "The intentions are not wrong. People meet, and they should meet."

After reunion of Pawars, Shinde likely to join them against BJP in Pune polls

SUDHIR SURYAWANSHI @ Mumbai

THE NCP and NCP (SP), headed by Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Ajit Pawar and his uncle Sharad Pawar, respectively, have decided to contest the Pimpri Chinchwad and Pune civic polls unitedly.

"A decision on the alliance has been taken considering the sentiments of local party workers," said NCP (SP) MLA Rohit Pawar on Monday. "The decision has been taken only for Pune and Pimpri-Chinchwad. Sharad Pawar is not involved in this entire decision-making process," he added.

The alliances have been forged to ensure that the election battle becomes easier for both factions, he said, adding that for now, the parties will fight the Pune and Pimpri-Chinchwad civic body elections together.

Meanwhile, the Uddhav Thackeray-led Shiv Sena (UBT) faction, and the Congress will contest the Pune and both the PMC and Pimpri-Chinchwad elections. The BJP, on the other hand, has refused to concede the space to other parties and decided to contest all 165 seats on its own. After failing to strike a seat-sharing pact with the saffron party, the Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Eknath Shinde-led Shiv Sena is also likely to join hands with the Pawar factions for the Pune municipal corporation elections. Shiv Sena leader Ravindra Dhangekar on Monday met Ajit Pawar to initiate the talks with a demand of 35 to 40 seats in the civic body polls.

Elections to 29 civic bodies in Maharashtra will be held on January 15. The counting of votes will take place the next day. The last date for filing nominations is December 30.

BJP to go it alone

After failing to strike a seat-sharing pact with the saffron party, the Maharashtra Deputy Chief Minister Eknath Shinde-led Shiv Sena is also likely to join hands with the Pawar factions for the Pune municipal corporation elections. The BJP has refused to concede space to other parties.

131-km march against job crisis among Gujarat tribals

DILIP SINGH KSHATRIYA @ Ahmedabad

TRIBALS from Gujarat's Banaskantha have launched a 131-kilometre padayatra from Palanpur to Gandhinagar, protesting against caste discrimination, arbitrary rejection of caste verification certificates, and delays that have pushed educated tribal youth into unemployment.

Congress workers, including Danta Congress MLA Kanti Kharadi, joined the walk. "This is not a protest born overnight," Kharadi said while walking alongside protesters. "For years, representations were made at the district level. Files moved, meetings happened, assurances were given but nothing changed. Because of the rejection of caste verification certificates, educated youth are sitting at home without jobs. When there is no solution locally, we are left with no option but to walk to Gandhinagar."

At the heart of the agitation lies the caste verification process, which protesters say has turned into an institutional roadblock rather than a safeguard.

Tribal leader Ishwarbhai Damor traced the crisis back three to four years, saying the community exhausted every constitutional channel before hitting the streets.

"We submitted written applications to Mamlatdars, Collectors, Ministers, the Chief Minister, even the Governor," Damor said. "Our only demand was to remove the hurdles in caste certificate verification. Till today, there is no permanent or humane solution."

Damor alleged that the consequences have been devastating. "Youth who studied for years, cleared government exams through hard work, had their appointment orders withheld only because their caste certificates were kept pending or cancelled," he said.

Power equation in Gujarat BJP unit redrawn

DILIP SINGH KSHATRIYA @ Ahmedabad

THE BJP's long-awaited Gujarat state executive announcement has done more than fill posts; it has redrawn power lines. As Jagdish Vishwakarma settles into the president's chair, the new team signals a quiet but sharp reset, reviving factional tensions and questions over who calls the shots.

The political chessboard of Gujarat BJP shifted late Saturday night when newly appointed state president Vishwakarma unveiled his full organisational team, ending weeks of suspense. The list was announced after a long debate.

Ten leaders have been appointed as state vice presidents, while Aniruddha Dave, Dr Prashant Korat, Hitendrasinh Chauhan and Ajay Brahmbhatt have been elevated as general secretaries.

Bajrang Dal men go on rampage during b'day bash at Bareilly cafe

NAMITA BAJPAI @ Lucknow

CHAOS broke out at a café in UP's Bareilly on Saturday afternoon as over two dozen members of the Right-wing group Bajrang Dal gatecrashed a birthday party taking place there and accused two of the attendees of "love jihad."

They reportedly took issue with the fact that those attending the birthday celebrations included members of different communities. After storming into the café, the Bajrang Dal members reportedly assaulted an attendee. Two Muslim youths who were present at the party were fined. The café staffer was also slapped with a fine for "disturbing peace." As the situation began to escalate, police had to intervene and restore order.

The Bareilly police on Monday registered an FIR in this regard against local residents Rishabh Thakur, Deepak Pathak and their 25 unidentified associates under Sections 333 (house trespass after preparation for hurt, assault or wrongful restraint), 115 (voluntarily causing hurt), 351 (criminal intimidation), 324 (mischief) and 191 (rioting) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS). All of them are currently at large. Both Rishabh and Deepak are reportedly self-proclaimed cow vigilantes with a history of creating unrest in the area over "love jihad" and similar issues.

The Bajrang Dal's Bareilly coordinator, Aryan Chaudhary, has, however, denied claims that the group of alleged vigilantes involved in the incident are associated with the outfit.

Circle Officer Ashutosh Shivam said, "We were alerted about a fight breaking out at a restaurant falling under the Prem Nagar police station area on December 27. Based on the information, a police team reached the spot and restored order. A complaint was subsequently filed at the police station, and a case has now been registered against two named individuals and other unknown persons under the relevant sections of the BNS."

Cops step in to restore order, register FIR

After storming into the café, the Bajrang Dal members reportedly assaulted an attendee. Two Muslim youths who were present at the party were fined. The café staffer was also slapped with a fine for "disturbing peace." As the situation escalated, police intervened and restored order. The Bareilly police on Monday registered an FIR in this regard against two local residents and their 25 unidentified associates.

UNDER ATTACK

We are also Indians, says slain Tripura student's dad

PRASANTA MAZUMDAR @ Guwahati

AMID nationwide outrage over the murder of a Tripura student in Dehradun reportedly triggered by a dispute over a racial slur, his father Tarun Prasad Chakma on Monday condemned discrimination against natives of the Northeast.

"Families from here in the Northeast send their children outside so they can pursue better academic and professional opportunities," he said, adding, "No child from the Northeast should be subjected to what happened to my son. The government must ensure their safety."

Dwelling on the constant stereotyping and othering of people belonging to the Northeast because of their appearance, he stressed, "So what if we are from the Northeast? The Northeast is also a part of India. We are also Indians."

Tarun's son Angel Chakma, a 24-year-old final-year MBA student at a private university in Dehradun, was stabbed multiple times by a group of youths on December 9. He sustained serious injuries in the attack and succumbed on December 26 after being hospitalised for 17 days.

Uttarakhand CM Pushkar Singh Dhami on Monday spoke to the victim's father and assured strict punishment for the accused. A probe into the matter is under way.

A horrific hate crime, says Rahul

Leader of the Opposition in Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi on Monday called the killing of the Tripura student in Dehradun a "horrific hate crime," as he accused the ruling BJP of "normalising" hate. India is built on respect and unity, not fear and abuse, he said as he sent thoughts to the bereaved family members.

Kashmiri shawl traders harassed, assaulted in HP

FAYAZ WANI @ Srinagar

A group of Kashmiri shawl sellers in Himachal Pradesh were recently harassed, assaulted and told to leave the state despite possessing the valid documents. It is the 17th incident of harassment against Kashmiri traders in the hill state in recent months.

Over two dozen Kashmiri shawl sellers, many of whom have been working in Himachal Pradesh for over 25 to 30 years, alleged they are being repeatedly targeted and intimidated into shutting shop.

Hilal Ahmed, one of the affected Kashmiri shawl sellers, said he was intercepted by three persons while selling shawls in the Ghumarwin area of Bilaspur district. "The trio told me not to sell shawls here and leave the place. They are harassing all of us. We have been working here for the last two decades, and this is the first time that we are facing such harassment," he claimed, adding that another trader from Kashmir, an elderly person, was attacked weapons and his goods worth more than ₹20,000 were damaged with weapons.

Ghulam Hassan, also a shawl seller, says, "Three masked men waylaid and thrashed me one morning. They also ripped apart my shawls." Another trader from Kashmir, Ghulam Mohammad, claims, "I was riding my motorcycle when some people stopped me and asked for my documents. They are telling us to return to Kashmir and never come again."

The shawl sellers have appealed to CM Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu to take a serious note of these incidents.

Bangalore Metro Rail Corporation Limited

(A Joint Venture of GoI & GoK)
Metro Rail Depot, Old Madras Road, Near NGEF Bus Stop,
Baiyappanahalli, Bengaluru-560 038 Ph:080-25191039
e-Mail: contactus@bmrc.co.in Website: www.bmrc.co.in

Bid No. BMRCL/2025-26/BD/WORK_INDENT124 Date: 29.12.2025

TENDER NOTIFICATION

BMRCL invites tenders from eligible Tenderers for **"Providing of tensile cloth/Canopy works at Cubbon Park (CBPK), Sir M. Viswesharaiah (VSWA) and Nada Prabhu Kempegowda (KGWA) Entry Location of Underground Metro station Building."** Sale Start Date: **27.12.2025.** Sale End Date: **27.01.2026.** Last Date for Seeking Clarification: **15.01.2026.** Last Date and Time of Submission: **27.01.2026, 15.00 Hrs.** Date and Time of Opening **28.01.2026, 15.30 Hrs. As per KPP Portal.** Venue of Tender Opening: **Admin Block Baiyappanahalli Metro Depot.** Contact Details: **G. Ambarish Phone: 9481964452.** e-Mail:**dyce_ambarish@bmrc.co.in**

Sd/- Deputy Chief Engineer, CSW/L-1 & UG

POLICE DEPARTMENT

Office of the Commisssioner,
Police Traffic Division,
7th Floor, M.S. Building, Dr. Ambedkar Veedhi, Bengaluru 560001.
E-mail: dgppcw@ksp.gov.in **Tel No.**22353871

No.STS-3/59/Tender Publish/2025-26 Dated : 26.12.2025

e-TENDER NOTIFICATION

The tender are invited in Two Cover System as per Karnataka Transparency in Public Act 1999 and Rules 2000 through e-Tender of Government of Karnataka website for Supply/Installation/AMC of following items required to the Joint Commissioner of Police Traffic, Bengaluru.

Sl. No	Tender No.	Particulars	Last Date for submission of tender
1	KSP/2025-26/ IND0454/Call-2	Supply of IMV 133 Notices for offences generated through FTVR for BTP	05/01/2026

For further details of the tender and the tender documents can be obtained from the public procurement portal.

Sd/-
Joint Commissioner of Police, Traffic, Bangalore.

DIPR/CP/4694/NR/2025-26

MYSORE PAINTS & VARNISH LTD.,

(A Govt., of Karnataka Undertaking)
New Bannimantap Extension, MYSURU-570 015
Phone: 0821-2493831-2497469/2499340,
website: www.mysorepaints.karnataka.gov.in
email: materials-mpvl@karnataka.gov.in
Ref: MPVL/MAT/2025-26/0020 /CALL-8 Date: 27.12.2025

RE -TENDER NOTIFICATION

Tenders are invited from reputed manufacturers/ authorized dealers for supply of the following materials through Karnataka Public Procurement Portal (KPPP). The details are as mentioned below:

Re-Tender Notification No.: MPVL/2025-26/IND0020/ Call-8 –Re-Tender notification for supply of Machineries for production of Paints & Allied Products. (05 Item's. Estimated value Rs.48 Lakhs).

1) HIGH SPEED DISPERSER - 30 HP IN NFLP - 1 Nos.
2) JACKETED VESSEL – 750 LITRES (SS) - 1 Nos
3) ATTRITOR 500 LITRES - 1 Nos.
4) LET DOWN TANKS - 1000 LITRES (150 RPM) - 1 Nos.
5) PUMPING SYSTEM - 1 Nos.
6) AMC for Item No. 01 to 05

Interested parties may visit **www.kppp.karnataka.gov.in** for participating in the tender.

Last date for submission of Tender/Bids is 15.01.2026 at 17:00:00 hrs. Technical Bid Opening on 17.01.2026 at 11:00:00 hrs.

For Mysore Paints and Varnish Ltd.,
Sd/-
Materials Manager/ TIA

BENGALURU WEST CITY CORPORATION

Office of the Executive Engineer, Kengeri Division, BBMP Office Building, C A No-3, 1st Main Road, Outre Ring Road-Kommaghatta Road, Kengeri Upanagara, Bengaluru 560060

No.: EE/KEN/TEND/05/2025-26 Date: 29.12.2025

SHORT TERM TENDER NOTIFICATION

(Two Cover System) (Only Through E-Procurement System)

The Executive Engineer, Kengeri Division BWCC, Zone-1 invites Request for Proposal from interested persons / firms those **who have done similar type of work** for **Consultancy Services for Project Management including Supervision, Quality Control (PMC) for** the below works.

Sl. No.	Name of Work
1	Providing consultancy Services for the work "Comphrensive Development of Roads and Drains of Arterial, Sub Arterial, Priority Roads and connecting roads in Doddabidarakallu, Herohalli and Kengeri Sub Division Under "Capital Support for Special Infra Projects" Grants 2025-26 (GO No-5,27,28,29,30,31,33,34,35,40,42,43 to 48) (Package-1)". **EMD amount in Rs.:** 54,000/-
2	Providing consultancy Services for the work "Comphrensive Development of Roads and Drains of Arterial, Sub Arterial, Priority Roads and connecting roads in Herohalli Sub Division Under "Capital Support for Special Infra Projects" Grants 2025-26 (GO No 26, 41, 49, 50,51 & 52) (Package-2)". **EMD amount in Rs.:** 78,000/-
3	Providing consultancy Services for the work "Comphrensive Development of Roads and Drains of Arterial, Sub Arterial, Priority Roads and connecting roads in Kengeri Sub Division Under "Capital Support for Special Infra Projects" Grants 2025-26 (GO No 32, 36, 37, 38 & 39) (Package-3)". **EMD amount in Rs.:** 21,000/-
4	Providing consultancy Services for the work "Comphrensive Development of Roads and Drains at Pattanagere, Krishna Garden, Durga Layout, Concord Layout, Hemmigepura Village, Sunkapalya and Surrounding area in ward no-33, Hemmigepura under CMIDP Grants 2025-26 (GO Sl No-1, 2 & 4) (Package-4)". **EMD amount in Rs.:** 36,500/-
5	Providing consultancy Services for the work "Comphrensive Development of Roads and Drains at Kodipalya, Sridharagudda Layout, Greenview Layout, Jettegerepalya and Surrounding Area in ward no-33, Hemmigepura Under CMIDP Grants 2025-26 (GO Sl No-3 & 5) (Package-5)". **EMD amount in Rs.:** 25,000/-
6	Providing consultancy Services for the work "Improvements of Roads and Drains at Bhavani Nagara and Surrounding area near SWD in ward No-26 Doddabidarkallu". **EMD amount in Rs.:** 5,000/-

Time Schedule: (1) Tender document may be downloaded through E-portal from: **31.12.2025. (2)** Pre-bid meeting: **02.01.2026, 3:30 p.m.** Office of the Chief Engineer, RR Nagar zone-1, Ideal Homes, Rajarajeshwari Nagar Zone, Blore-98. **(3)** Last date & time for receipt of tenders: **07.01.2026** upto **4:00 p.m. (4)** Opening of Technical bid: **08.01.2026** at **4:30 p.m.** Further details can be obtained from the above office during working hours or from the website **https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in**

Sd/- Executive Engineer,
Kengeri Division, BWCC, Zone-01

केनरा बैंक Canara Bank

(A Government of India Undertaking)

Canara Bank, ARM Branch I

2nd Floor, No. 86, Spencers Tower, M.G. Road, Bangalore-560001.

SALE NOTICE

E-Auction Sale Notice for Sale of Immovable Properties under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with provisio to Rule 8 (6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged to the Secured Creditor, the Symbolic possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer will be sold on "As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is" on **17.01.2026 (10.30 AM to 11.00 AM),** for recovery of **Rs. 48,40,595.55** (Rupees Forty Eight Lakhs Forty Thousand Five Hundred and Ninety Five and paise Fifty Five only) as on 01.12.2025 with further interest and cost thereon due due to the ARM-1 Branch, Bengaluru of **Canara Bank** from **1. Shri. Prabhu N** S/o. Late Narayanaswamy, No. 20, Dasara Colony, 7th Main, Jayanagar, 2nd Block, Bangalore-560011.

The Earnest Money shall be Deposited by way of E-Wallet of **M/s. PSB Alliance Private Limited (https://baanknet.com/)** portal directly or by generating the Challan therein to deposit the EMD through RTGS/NEFT in the account details as mentioned in the said challan on or before **16.01.2026, 4.00 pm.** **(Rs. in Lacs)**

Lot	Description of the immovable/ movable assets	Reserve Price	EMD	Incremental value Rs.
1	All that piece and parcel of Site No.30, katha No.101, formed in Sy No.83/1, (Gramtana), situated at Gangenahalli, Chowdanayakanahalli Gram Panchyathi limit, Tavarekere Hobli, Bangalore Soutn Taluk, measuring East to West 40 feet and North to South 30 Feet, Totally measuring 1200 sq.ft with 3 squares residential house and **bounded on the : East :** Road, **West :** Site No. 43, **North :** Site No. 31, **South :** Site No. 29. **Coordinates of the property Latitude - 12.982528 Longitude - 77.391750**	46.00	4.60	1.00

Known encumbrances, if any: Not to the knowledge of the Bank.

For detailed terms and conditions of the sale please refer the link "E-Auction" provided in **Canara Bank's website (www.canarabank.com)** or **E-Wallet of M/s. PSB Alliance Private Limited (https://baanknet.com/)** portal and may contact **ARM-1 Branch, Bengaluru, Canara Bank, Ph. No. 9901642631 and 9483544116** during office hours on any working day.

Date: 29.12.2025
Place: Bangalore

Sd/- Authorised Offier
Canara Bank

LIC HOUSING FINANCE LIMITED

1st Floor, Jeevan Managal Building, Hayes Road, Bengaluru -560025. Ph.: 080-43003651

POSSESSION NOTICE

Whereas, the undersigned being the Authorized Office of the M/S, LIC Housing Finance Limited the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Asset and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under section 13(12) read with rule 9 of security Interest(enforcement) Rule 2002 issued demand notice on below mentioned date calling upon the borrower/guarantors to repay the amount mentioned in the notice within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The Borrower having failed to repay the amount hereby given to the borrower and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/ her under Section 13(4) of the said Act with rule 9 of the said rules on below mentioned date.

The Borrower and the public in general are here by cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealing with property will be subject to the charge of M/s. LIC Housing Finance Limited for an amount notice mentioned below and interest thereon,

The Borrower attention is invited to provisions of section 13(8) of the said ACT, in respect of time available to redeem the secured assets.

Name of the Borrower, Loan No & Possession Taken Date	Demand Notice Date	Notce Amount	Description of the Property
MR. THARESH N B Loan A/c No. 411800006658 Symbolic possession taken on 24/12/2025	17/10/2025	Rs. 30,23,414.00	SCHEDULE PROPERTY : All that piece and parcel of Vacant land now known and Bangalore Mahanagar Palike Property Municipal New No.30 in PID No.39-234-30, coming under Ward No.39, Chandra Layout, situated at 1st Main Road, Nagarabhavi Village, Bangalore North Taluk, Bangalore in all total measuring 7550 Square Feet, now comes under the revenue and administrative jurisdiction of Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagar Palike, Ward No.128 and bounded on East by: 1st Main Road,West by: Private Property, North by: Property Nos.14, 2 and 91 & others Property, South by: Property of Krishnappa & A G Sampath KumarB SCHEDULE : Flat bearing No.106 (One Hundred Six), in First Floor, measuring about 1146 Square Feet, super built up area, containing 2 Bed rooms, with one covered car Parking Space bearing No.106, including proportionate share in common areas such as passages, lobbies, staircase, etc., in the multistoried residential building known as 'SHIVA APARTMENT', constructed over Schedule 'A' Property
MR. MOHAMMED FASI KHAN Loan A/c No. 4002160002826 Symbolic possession taken on 24/12/2025	23/07/2025	Rs. 59,18,171.00	SCHEDULE PROPERTY : All that piece and parcel of property land Sy. No. 8/PI, (Old Sy.No.8), measuring 0-35 guntas and Sy. No. 9/1, measuring 2 acres 05 guntas in total 3 acres situated at Heelalige Village, Attibele Hobli, Anekal Taluk Bangalore (Vide Conversion order No.BDS:ALN(A)SR 44/2005-06 dated 27/04/2005 by the Deputy Commissioner of Bangalore Urban and APALAO /83/2011-2012, dated 14/02/2013, issued by the Town and Country joint planning authority and director of Anekal Planning Authority), together with all the rights, appurtenances whether underneath or above the surface and bounded by East by: Land belonging to Shambaiah West by: Road, North by: Land belonging to Muniyappa, South by: Land belonging to Shambaiah and Halla. B SCHEDULE : All that Residential Apartment bearing No.G-06, in Ground Floor, Block No.04, of "MAYUR BRUNDAVAN" built in schedule A property and measuring 915 Sq.Fts., of super built up area which inclusive of proportionate share in common areas passages, lobbies, staircases and other areas of common use together with 379.353 square feet undivided share, right, title and interest and Ownership in the Land in schedule A property vide Khata No.1495/236/B4-G-06, with one covered car parking space in Ground Floor, duly issued by the Chandapura Gram Panchayati with RCC framed structure, concrete block Masonry, Main Door teak frame and steam breach veneered flush shutter and room doors sal wood with water and bounded on the East by: Flat No.G11, West by: Flat No.G03, North by: Flat No.G07, South by: Flat No.G05.
MR. RANABOTHU SAIDI REDDY Loan A/c No. 411800006415 Physical possession taken on 24/12/2025	19/09/2025	Rs. 65,38,718.00	SCHEDULE PROPERTY : All the piece and parcel of the vacant converted residential land in sy.No.179,182, 183, 185, 186, 187, 188, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195 and 196 all total measuring 13 Acres 21 Guntyas, the layout called as Sai Anugraha Enclave, wherein an approval has been accorded by the BMRDA vide its anction letter bearing No. LAO 56/ 2008-09 dated 28/01/2009, is situated at Thattanahalli Village, Kasaba Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore Rural District, and bounded on East by: Anekal Attibele Road, West by: Private Property, North by: Private Property, South by: Road B SCHEDULE : All the piece and parcel of vacant residential Site bearing No.133, Katha No.151, measuring East to West: 100 feet and North to South: 60 feet totally measuring 6000 Sq. Feet formed in converted land in Sy. No.185 as per the orders dated 15-09-2008 passed by Special Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore vide order No. ALN (A) (K) S.R 44/2008-09, wherein an approval has been accorded by the BMRDA vide its sanction letter bearing No. LAO 56/2008-09, is situated a Thattanahalli Village, Kasaba Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore Rural District, and bounded on: East by: Site No. 131 and Site No.132, West by: Private Property, North by: Private Property, South by: Road.
MR. PRASHOB T Loan A/c No. 4001180000128 Physical possession taken on 24/12/2025	22/08/2025	Rs. 55,00,198.00	SCHEDULE PROPERTY : All the piece and parcel of Vacant converted residential land in Sy.No.179, 182, 183, 185, 186, 187, 188, 190, 191, 192, 193, 194, 195 and 196 all total measuring 13 Acres 21 Guntas, the layout called as Sai Anugraha Enclave whjerein an approval has been accorded by the BMRDA vide its sanction letter No.LAO 56 / 2008-09 dated 28/01/2009, is situated at Thattanahalli Village, Kasaba Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore Rural District, and bounded on East by: Anekal Attibele Road, West by: Private Property, North by: Sy.No.197, South by: Village Road.B SCHEDULE : All that piece and parcel of Vacant residential Site bearing No.180, Katha No.183, measuring East to West: 50 Feet and North to South : 110 feet totally measuring 5500 Sq. Feet formed in converted land in Sy.No.182 as per Orders dated 15/09/2008 passed by the Special Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore, vide order No.ALN (A) (K) S.R 44/2008-09, wherein an approval has been accorded by the BMRDA vide its sanction letter No.LAO 56 / 2008-09 dated 28/01/2009, is situated at Thattanahalli Village, Kasaba Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore Rural District, and bounded on East by: Private Property, West by: Road, North by: Site No.179, South by: Sy.No.180 and 181 Property
MR. ESHWARAPPA M Loan A/c No. 411900012163 Symbolic Possession taken on: 26/12/2025	30/07/2025	Rs. 4070561.00	SCHEDULE OF THE PROPERTY : All that piece and parcel of the Eastern Portion of the Vacant property bearing Old House List No.42 and 38, BMP No.19, Presently BBMP No.19/1, PID No.62-41-19/1, situated at Lakkasandra Village, Hombegowda Nagara, Bangalore, BBMP ward No.62, measuring East to West: 18 feet and North to South: 64 feet, totally measuring 1152 Square Feet, consisting with Ground consisting of 6 sq. First and Second Floor 11 sq. each of RCC roofed building with Mosaic flooring, Jungle wood with all civic amenities, and bounded on: East by:Property No.18, West by:Remaining Western portion of Property No.19, North by:Road, South by:Property of Jayaramappa.

Place: Bangalore
Date: 30.12.2025

Sd/- Authorized Officer
LIC Housing Finance Limited

QuoteExpress IT ALWAYS SEEMS IMPOSSIBLE UNTIL IT'S DONE › NELSON MANDELA

PUBLIC NOTICE

General Public is hereby notified that our client Smt. H.R. Bhagyalakshmamma, D/o Late. Ramachandraiah, aged about 78 years, residing at No. 14, 6th Main, Maruthinagara, Kamakshipalya, Bengaluru-560 091, is the absolute owner in possession of the residential property bearing Khata No. 1553:1641 situated in Kamakshipalya, Yeshwantpura Hobli, Bengaluru measuring East to West 40 feet, North to South 30 feet, bounded on East by Bhadramma's Property, West by C. Puttaiah's & Ramaiah's Property, North by Road, South by Road, presently within jurisdiction of BBMP, Ward No. 101.

My client has lost the Original Registered Sale Deed dated 09/04/1992, registered as Document No. 143/1992-93, Book-I, Volume No. 4730, Pages 192-197, in Sub-Registrar Office, Bengaluru North Taluk while travelling from Kamakshipalya to Majestic in Private Bus on 01/08/2025. In this regard, my client has lodged a E-Lost report before the jurisdictional police, stating that if anybody comes in custody of the Original Document are requested to handover the same to my client. Now my client wants to gift the schedule property to her son Mr. Raghavendra and Mr. Raghavendra wants to avail loan from the financial institution by mortgaging the schedule property. If anybody has any claims, right, title & interest over the schedule property shall file an objection if any with documents in support of your claims within **7 days** from the date of publication of this notice to the address given below, failing which we will be constrained to treat it as no objections and if any objections filed beyond **7 days** will not be entertained and the same is not binding on my client or to the financial institution.

LAW & PRACTICE, ADVOCATES
CHANDAN .K, ADVOCATE
OFFICE AT: No. 77, 5TH MAIN, MANASA LAYOUT, KENGERI SATELLITE TOWN, BENGALURU-560060.
MOB. No. 7019255964
Email: chandan.law117@gmail.com

KARNATAKA ELECTRICITY REGULATORY COMMISSION

No. 16 C-1, Millers Tank Bed Area, Vasanthanagara,
Bengaluru-560052. Phone: 080-22268677/78/79 Fax: 080-22268667
Email: kerc-ka@nic.in Website: https://kerc.karnataka.gov.in

No: KERC/DD(Tariff)/2025-26/1378 Date: 24.12.2025

NOTICE

Sub: Draft Karnataka Electricity Regulatory Commission (Roadmap for Reducing Cross-Subsidy and Cross Subsidy Surcharge) Regulations, 2025 for the notice of public for filing views / suggestions / objections / comments - reg.

The draft Regulations on the above subject have been published in the State Gazette on 18th December, 2025. The same is available on the Commission's website **https://kerc.karnataka.gov.in**

Interested persons may file their views / suggestions / objections / comments, if any, on the above draft regulations to the **Secretary, KERC, No. 16, C-1, Miller Tank Bed Area, Vasanthanagar, Bengaluru-560052 within 30 (Thirty) days** from the date of publication in the official gazette.

Sd/- Secretary
DIPR/CP/4698/2025-26 For Karnataka Electricity Regulatory Commission

KARNATAKA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED

(CIN : U40109KA1999SGC025521)

No: EEE/PROJ/RCR/Baidoddi/2025-26/768-69 DATED: 22/12/2025

NOTIFICATION

KPTCL have formulated a scheme under section 28 and clause(e) of section 18 of the Indian Electricity Supply 1948 and the schemes are herewith published in pursuance of section 29(2) of the said act and also under the Electricity Supply Act 2003 and the same is herewith published in pursuance of section 67 to be read with 67(ii), this notification is issued for information of the general public. Particulars of the schemes are as follows:

1. Name of the Work: Establishing 2x160MVA, 220/110kV & 1x10MVA, 110/11kV sub-station at Baidoddi (Arasigera) in Raichur Taluk & District along with the stringing of 2nd circuit.

Salient Features: This line is constructed for Transmitting 220kV power from existing 220kV Jurala line to proposed Baidoddi (Arasigera) 2x200MVA, 220/110kV & 2x10MVA, 110/11kV sub-station to avoid over loading and providing reliable and quality of power supply to Baidoddi (Arasigera), Raichur and surrounding villages.

A. Construction of 220kV DC LILO line from Existing 220kV Raichur-Jural line to the Proposed 220/110kV Baidoddi (Arasigera) sub-station for a distance of 2.87 Kms in Raichur Taluk & District.

The proposed 220kV Line passing through these areas and Sy No's: Raichur Tq & Dist:

Hobli : 1.Chandraband, **Village Name :** Nagandoddi, **Survey No.:** 51/1. **Hobli :** 2.Chandrabanda, **Village Name :** Arasigera, **Survey No.:** 59, 60, 57, 62, 56, 67, 70, 71, 72, 9, 8, 6, 7, 5, 5/1, 5/2, 182, 181, 180, 183, 184, 175, 185, 160, 161, 162.

B. Construction of 110KV MC line from proposed 220/110kV Baidoddi (Arasigera) sub-station to the existing 110kV Wadavatti-Chiksugur line (LILOing of Wadavatti-Chicksugur and Yeragera-Yapaladinni lines) for a distance of about 4.85 kms in Raichur Tq & Dt.

The proposed 110kV MC Line passing through these areas and Sy No's: Raichur Tq & Dist:

Hobli : 1.Chandrabanda, **Village Name**: Kadagamdoddi, **Survey No.**21,22, **Hobli :** 2.Chandrabanda, **Village Name**: Chandrabanda, **Survey No.:** 588, 605, 606, 604, 608, 621, 611, 620, 612, 497, 496, 495, 491, 484, 483, 480, 485, 478, 477, 476, 466, 465, 464, 459, 432, 433, 437/1. **Hobli :** 3. Chandrabanda, **Village Name**: Arasigera, **Survey No.:** 163, 162.

C. Stringing of 2nd circuit on Existing D/C towers from 110/11 KV Chikkasugur S/S to Existing 110/33/11 KV APMC sub-station for a distance of 9.046 Kms in Raichur Taluk & District.

The proposed 110kV Line passing through these areas and Sy No's: Raichur Tq & Dist:

Hobli : 1. Raichur, **Village Name:** Raichur, **Survey No.:** 280,281/1, 282, 281/2, 167, 166, 165, 163, 159, 160, 137, 139, 140, 132. **Hobli :** 2. Raichur, **Village Name:** Yeramarus, **Survey No.:** 17, 23, 26, 27, 35, 34,36, 39, 40, 41, **Hobli :** 3. Raichur, **Village Name**: Manslapur, **Survey No.:** 86, 83, 84, 82, 80, **Hobli :** 4. Raichur, **Village Name:** Kuknur, **Survey No.:** 65, 66, 104, 103, 69, 102, 98, 99, 97, 96, 74, 73, 33, 32, 30, 29, 27, 28, 26, **Hobli :** 5. Raichur, **Village Name:** Chicksugur, **Survey No.:** 191, 188, 186, 189, 185,178, 366, 171, 172, 176/1, 173/1,173/2, 174, 117, 116, 118, 119.

D. Stringing of 2nd Circuit on existing DC towers from 110/33/11kV Yeragera sub-station to Yapaladinni tapping point for a distance of about 23.225 KMs in Raichur Tq, & District.

The proposed 110kV Line passing through these areas and Sy No's: Raichur Tq & Dist:

Hobli : 1. Raichur, **Village Name:** Maliyabad, **Survey No.:** 204, **Hobli :** 2. Raichur, **Village Name:** Sidarampura, **Survey No.:** 101, 103, 102. **Hobli :** 3. Raichur, **Village Name:** Mittimalkapur, **Survey No.:** 88, 89, 90, 79, 77, 80, 70, 77, 76, 71, 73, 67, 66, 59, 60, 61, 63, 62, 124/2, 124/1, 125, 126, 56, 127, 133, 132, 131, 130, 134,135, 91, 92, 93, 94, 107, 106, 104, 105, 114, 113, 112, 116. **Hobli :** 4. Raichur, **Village Name:** Devanapalli , **Survey No.:** Survey numbers falling within the limits of Devanapalli Village, through which this power line passes. **Hobli :** 5. Yeragera. **Village Name:** Thuntapura, **Survey No.:** 46, 54, 52, 53, 54, 62, 61, 88, 84, 87, 91, 117, 104,105, 111, 114, 115, 116, 113. **Hobli :** 6. Yeragera, **Village Name:** Yeragera, **Survey No.:** 347, 327, 331, 330, 335, 341, 340, 345, 346, 153, 152, 151, 150, 149, 118, 110/1. **Hobli :** 7. Raichur, **Village Name:** Beejanagera, **Survey No.:** 391, 393, 392, 389, 412, 385, 414, 384, 422, 418, 419, 420,8, 6, 5, 14, 46, 3, 2,148, 147, 146, 144, 143, 142, 185, 184, 194, 192, 193, 196, 195, 262, 257, 261, 258, 260, 259, 243, 247, 246, 229, 230, 228, 230, **Hobli :** 8. Raichur, **Village Name:** Bolmandoddi, **Survey No.:** 131, 132, 133, 120, 118, 119. **Hobli :** 9. Raichur, **Village Name:** Vadavatti, **Survey No.:** 114, 121, 116, 123, 115, 113, 112, 99, 110, 109, 106, 102, 92, 93, 86, 85, Tari, 79, 68, 57, 58, 61, 55, 62, 43, 46, **Hobli :** 10. Raichur, **Village Name:** Kurubadoddi, **Survey No.:** 79/2, 79/1, 37, 38, 78, 42, 41, 40, 50, 64, 51, 52, 53, 54, 16, 87, 55 **Hobli :**11. Chandrabanda, **Village Name:** Kadagamdhoddi, **Survey No.:** 24, 21, 20, 11, 12, 9, 7, 3 **Hobli :** 12. Chandrabanda, **Village Name:** Katlatakuru, **Survey No.:** 235, 234, 237, 229.

E. Stringing of 2nd Circuit on existing DC towers from 110KV Yapaladinni sub-station to 110KV Shaktinagar sub-station for a Distance of 30.44 Kms in Raichur Taluk & District.

The proposed 110kV Line passing through these areas and Sy No's: Raichur Tq & Dist:

Hobli :1 . Devasugur, **Village Name:** Devasugur, **Survey No.:**307, 308, 309, 324, 325, 310, 311, 322, 313, 321, 325, 314, 315, 319, 318, 337, 338, 340, 339, 341, 342, 207, 206, 343, 205, 204, 203, 201, 202

Hobli : 2.Devasugur, **Village Name:** Yagasanhalli, **Survey No.:** 94, 95, 93, 89, 92, 102, 103, 100, 101/1, 101/2, **Hobli :** 3. Kalmala Chicksugur, **Survey No.:** 80, 79, 78, 75, 71, 70, 69, 71, 72, 73, 74, 91, 92 , **Hobli :** 4. Devasugur, **Village Name:** Vadlur, **Survey No.:** 241, 240, 246, 247, 238, 222, 237, 223, 224, 225, 226. **Hobli :** 5. Raichur **Village Name:** Yagnur, **Survey No.:** 81, 82, 83, 87, 86, 85, 93, 92, 94, 95, 107, 106, 136,105, 137/1, 135,134, 128, 127, 125, 122, 123. **Hobli :** 6. Raichur, **Village Name:** Sunknur, **Survey No.:** 96, 95, 93, 94, 90, 91, 87, 86, 60, 61, 62, 80, 65, 66, 64, 67. **Hobli :** 7. Chandrabanda, **Village Name:** Palkamdoddi, **Survey No.:** 29, 30, 27, 26, 25, 39, 17, 16, 15, 13/3, 13/4,12, 52, 62, 61, 64, 60, 65, 59, **Hobli :** 8. Chandrabanda, **Village Name:** Katlatkur, **Survey No.:** 405, 406, 409, 407, 408, 411, 424, 421, 423, 50, 45, 48, 49, 52, 53, 57, 58, 60, 163, 164, 166, 165, 156, 210, 209, 211, 212, 223, 213, 222, 227, 221, 228, 220, 219, 218, **Hobli :** 9.Chandrabanda **Village Name:** Chandrabanda, **Survey No.:** 123, 124, 128, 126, 239, 240, 235, 234, 309, 308, 306, xx, 307, 301,298, 259, 260, 296, 262, 263, 266, 175, 174, 173, 171, 169, 170, **Hobli :** 10 Chandrabanda, **Village Name:** Naganadoddi, **Survey No.:** 65, 75/2, 64, 62, 75/1, 44, 45, 37, 32, 34, 33, 26, 27, 13, 18/1, 18/2, 15/4, 17/2, 17/3, 17/1, **Hobli :** 11. Chandrabanda, **Village Name:** Palvaldoddi. **Survey No.:** 4, 5, 2, 18, 17, 19, 22,23, **Hobli :** 12. Chandrabanda, **Village Name:** Yapaldinni, **Survey No.:** 349, 295, 283, 282, 281, 279, 284, 278, 277, 269, 276, 275, 338, 348, 349, 350, 190, 189, 187, 186, 193, 194, 195, 139, 137, 138,143, 144, 145, 146,142, 141, 153, 146,141.

F. Stringing of 2nd Circuit on existing DC towers from 110KV Matamari sub-station to Location No: 4 of existing 110KV Maliyabad to Yaragera line for a Distance of 23.34 Kms in Raichur Taluk & District.

The proposed 110kV Line passing through these areas and Sy No's: Raichur Tq & Dist:

Hobli : 1. Raichur, **Village Name:** Mittimalkapur, **Survey No.:** 88, **Hobli :** 2. Raichur, **Village Name:** Maliyabad, **Survey No.:** 204, 206, 205, 200, 259, 258, 257, 310, 309, 306, 312, 304, 305, 300, 301, 303, 302, 285, 508, 506, 509, 507, 511, 510, 514, 515, 516, 518, 521, 522, 523, 524/1, 524/2, 121, 120, 119, 118, 2, 3, 4, 20, 19, 18, 17, 25, 27, 29, 30, 31, 33, 32, 36, 70, 55, 69, 58, 63, 64, **Hobli :** 3. Kalmala, **Village Name:** Ashapur, **Survey No.:** 68, 67, 71, 72, 66, 65, 59, 58, 57, 56/1, 56/2 53, 52, 54, 55, 172, 173, 171, 174, 169, 170, 160, 155, 149, 141, 139, 140. **Hobli :** 4. Raichur, **Village Name:** Aralibenchi, **Survey No.:** 52, 51, 50, 49, 30, 31, 32, 33/1, 33/2, 33/3, 35, 15, 24, 22, 23, **Hobli :** 5. Raichur, **Village Name:** Hosuru, **Survey No.:** 51, 54, 52, 53, **Hobli :** 6. Raichur, **Village Name:** Raichur, **Survey No.:** 1374, 1375, 1373, 1370, 1369, 1368, 1365, 1364, 1363,172, 171, **Hobli :** 7. Kalamala, **Village Name:** Marchetahala, **Survey No.:** 47, 46, 48, 58, 59, 69, 68, 70, 73, 72, 86, 87, 88, 93, 92, 123, 126, 130, 129, 146, 148, 143, 151, 152, 158, 156, 161, 167, 160, 159, 155, 149, 141, 139, 140, 169, 170, 173, 174, 177, 176, **Hobli :** 8. Yeragera, **Village Name:** Matamari, **Survey No.:** 230, 229, 227, 226, 225, 135, 223, 224, 207, 205, 204, 203, 193, 186, 187, 174, 171,175, 168, 169, 159, 158, 155, 157, 156, 153/1, 153/2, 297, 152/2.

Approved DPR Cost of the Project: Rs.14456.55 Lakhs.

The corporation shall have and exercise all powers which the telegraph authorities process under Para (iii) of Indian Telegraph Act 1885 (13 of 1885) for carrying of the above scheme. Objection or discrepancies to the scheme, if any should be sent to the Executive Engineer (Elec.,), Projects Division, KPTCL, Raichur within 02 months from the date of publication of this notification for consideration by the corporation. Any objection received after this period will not be considered.

Sd/- Executive Engineer (Elec), Projects Division, KPTCL, Raichur.

$2 billion
US pledge for UN humanitarian aid in 2026, lower than before

GLOBAL WEATHER
LR: Light Rain • HR: Heavy Rain • LS: Light Snow • TDS: Thundershower • LC: Light Cloud • SNY: Sunny

Beijing	29	19	SNY	Los Angeles	20	12	SNY
Colombo	29	23	TDS	Melbourne	17	5	LC
Dhaka	27	16	TDS	Moscow	4	2	SNY
Dubai	26	22	SNY	New York	2	-3	SNY
Houston	30	23	TDS	Singapore	27	25	TDS
Istanbul	33	21	SNY	Toronto	-6	-8	SNY
London	12	8	SNY	Washington	3	-2	SNY

Zelenskyy says US offering 15-year security guarantee

Seeks strong 50-year guarantee to deter Russian aggression; Trump insists negotiations are bringing Kyiv and Moscow closer to peace

KYIV

The United States is offering Ukraine security guarantees for a period of 15 years as part of a proposed peace plan, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said Monday, though he said he would prefer an American commitment of up to 50 years to deter Russia from further attempts to seize its neighbor's land by force.

US President Donald Trump hosted Zelenskyy at his Florida resort on Sunday and insisted that Ukraine and Russia are "closer than ever before" to a peace settlement. Negotiators are still searching for a breakthrough on key issues, however, including whose forces withdraw from where in Ukraine and the fate of Ukraine's Russian-occupied Zaporizhzhia nuclear power plant, one of the 10 biggest in the world. Trump noted that the monthslong US-led negotiations could still collapse.

"Without security guarantees, realistically, this war will not end," Zelenskyy told reporters in voice messages responding to questions sent via a WhatsApp chat.

Ukraine has been fighting Russia since 2014, when it illegally annexed Crimea and Moscow-backed separatists took up arms in the Donbas, a vital industrial region in eastern Ukraine. Details of the security guarantees have not become public but Zelenskyy said Monday that they include how a peace deal would be monitored as well as the "presence" of partners. He didn't elaborate, but Russia has said it won't accept the deployment in Ukraine of troops from NATO countries.

As indications suggest negotiations could come to a head in January, before the fourth anniversary of Russia's full-blown invasion of Ukraine on February 24, 2022, Russian President Vladimir Putin on Monday claimed that Russian troops are advancing in the eastern Donetsk region of Ukraine and are also pressing their offensive in the southern Zaporizhzhia region. Putin has sought to portray himself as negotiating from a position of strength as Ukrainian forces strain to keep back the bigger Russian army. He also emphasised at a meeting with senior military officers the need to create military buffer zones along the Russian border. *AP*

Donald Trump and Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelenskyy at a joint news conference following a meeting at Mar-a-Lago club in Florida | AP

Russia says Ukraine targeted Putin's home, Kyiv denies

MOSCOW: Russia accused Ukraine of firing 91 long-range drones at one of President Vladimir Putin's residences, a claim Kyiv dismissed as a fabrication aimed at derailing US-led peace efforts. Foreign Minister Sergei Lavrov said all drones were shot down and warned Russia could revise its negotiating stance. Ukraine said the allegation was false and accused Moscow of trying to undermine diplomacy as talks progress. The claim comes as Kyiv backs most of a US peace plan, while key disputes persist. Meanwhile, Trump said, "You know who told me about it? President Putin, early in the morning, he said he was attacked. It's no good," Trump told reporters at his Mar-a-Lago residence in Florida, adding that he was "very angry about it."

Body bags containing victims of a fire at a nursing home in Manado, North Sulawesi province, Indonesia | AP

Fire breaks out at Indonesian retirement home, kills 16

BANGKOK

A fire at an Indonesian retirement home killed 16 residents on Sunday evening, police said. The fire in the single-story house in Manado in Indonesia's North Sulawesi Province started while the residents were asleep, police said on Monday.

Several people living near the nursing home saw smoke billowing around 8 p.m. Neighbors reportedly helped rescue several occupants. "The team on the ground has confirmed that the death toll currently is 16," North Sulawesi police spokesperson Alamsyah Hasibuan said. "Fifteen of them were burned to death, while one victim's body remains intact." Firefighters with six trucks needed more than two hours to extinguish the blaze after nearby residents reported the fire to emergency services, officials said.

There were 15 survivors who were treated at local hospitals in Manado City, Hasibuan said. The bodies of victims were taken to the police hospital in Manado for identification with the assistance of families, officials said. Television reports Sunday showed bright flames casting an orange glow and filling the night air with smoke.

Body bags were lined up outside the retirement home. An initial police report said an electrical fault caused the fire but officials later said the cause was still under investigation. *AFP*

13 DEAD IN TRAIN DERAILMENT IN MEXICO

MEXICO CITY: Officials said a train accident in southern Mexico killed at least 13 people and injured dozens, halting traffic along a rail line connecting the Pacific Ocean with the Gulf of Mexico. The Interoceanic Train linking the states of Oaxaca and Veracruz went off the rails Sunday as it passed a curve near the town of Nizanda. "The Mexican Navy has informed me that, tragically, 13 people died in the Interoceanic Train accident," Mexican President Claudia Sheinbaum posted on X, adding that 98 people are injured, five of them seriously. AP

IS clash kills three Turkish police officers, six militants

ANKARA

ISLAMIC State militants clashed with police in northwest Turkey on Monday, leaving three police officers and six militants dead, Turkey's interior minister said. At least eight other police officers and a night guard were wounded. The shooting occurred in Elmali district in Yalova province, south of Istanbul, as police stormed a house where the militants were hiding.

Special forces from neighboring Bursa province were dispatched to reinforce the operation. Interior Minister Ali Yerlikaya said the operation in Yalova was one out of more than 100 simultaneous raids carried out against IS suspects in 15 provinces across the country. The operation in Yalova was carried out with "great care" because women and children were inside the house where the militants were located, Yerlikaya said. All five women and six children were safely evacuated from the house, he said.

All of the militants were Turkish nationals, the minister told reporters. The operation began at around 2am local time and was completed at 9.40am. Turkish President Recep Tayyip Erdogan offered condolences for the slain officers and vowed to continue the fight against extremist groups. *AP*

China stages military drills around Taiwan, warns 'external forces'

HONG KONG

China's military on Monday dispatched air, navy and missile units to conduct joint live-fire drills around the island of Taiwan, which Beijing called a "stern warning" against separatist and "external interference" forces. Taiwan said it was placing its forces on alert and called the Chinese government "the biggest destroyer of peace."

Taiwan's aviation authority said more than 100,000 international air travelers would be affected by flight cancellations or diversions. The drills came after Beijing expressed anger at what could be the largest-ever US arms sale to the self-ruled territory and at a statement by Japan's prime minister, Sanae Takaichi, saying its military could get involved if China were to take action against Taiwan. China says Taiwan must come under its rule.

Beijing accused Taiwan's ruling party of seeking independence with US backing, as Taiwan's defence ministry said forces were on high alert during rapid response drills.

"The Chinese Communist Party's targeted military exercises further confirm its nature as an aggressor and the biggest destroyer of peace," it said. Beijing sends warplanes and navy vessels toward the island on a near-daily basis, and in recent years it has stepped up the scope and scale of these exercises.

Senior Col Shi Yi, spokesperson of China's People's Liberation Army's Eastern Theater Command, said the drills would be conducted in the Taiwan Strait and areas to the north, southwest, southeast and east of the island. Shi said the activities would focus on sea-air combat readiness patrol, "joint seizure of comprehensive superiority" and blockades on key ports. It was also the first large-scale military drill where the command publicly mentioned one goal was "all-dimensional deterrence outside the island chain."

"It is a stern warning against 'Taiwan independence' separatist forces and external interference forces, and it is a legitimate and necessary action to safeguard China's sovereignty and national unity," Shi said. *AP*

Chinese President and chairman of the Central Military Commission (CMC) Xi Jinping poses with newly promoted generals in Beijing | AP

EXPRESS READ

Nepal ex-min testifies on deadly crackdown

KATHMANDU: Nepal's former interior minister Ramesh Lekhak testified Monday before an inquiry into the September uprising that killed 77 people and toppled the government. Lekhak, who resigned after deadly clashes in Kathmandu, denied ordering a crackdown, saying he told security forces to avoid casualties. He will continue testimony as the probe widens ahead of March elections.

Taliban officials visit B'desh ahead of polls

DHAKA: Afghan Taliban officials visited Bangladesh and met Islamist leaders seeking to expand their political influence ahead of elections due in February, Islamist officials said. The week-long visit by a senior Afghan foreign ministry official also aimed to boost trade ties. He visited many madrassas, including one run by an Islamist party leader.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the general public that my client is negotiating to purchase the immovable property described below from its absolute owner **Smt. Pramila,** W/o. Sri Jayaprakash N.V., residing at No.46, "Kutira Nilaya", Parimala Nagara, Arishinakunte, Kasaba Hobli, Nelamangala Taluk, Bangalore Rural District – 562123.

Any person or persons having any legitimate claim, right, title, interest, lien, or charge of any nature whatsoever in respect of the said property, is hereby called upon put forward their claim, if any, in writing along with documents, within 15 (Fifteen) days from the date of this notice, to the undersigned at the address below. If no such claim or objection is received within the said period, it shall be presumed that there are no claims or objections and the transaction will proceed accordingly.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the residential Site bearing **Site No.110, formed in the layout in converted lands bearing Sy. Nos. 97/1, 97/2, 97/3A, 97/3B, 97/4, 97/5, 97/6, 97/7A, 97/7B, 99/1, 99/3A, 100/1A, 100/1C, 120/2, 121/1, 121/7, 130 and 133 (Old No.98) of Pillalli Village, Dasanapura Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk,** approved by the Nelamangala Planning Authority vide Order dated 27.09.2008 in **No. NPA/LAO/126/2007-08,** presently bearing **PID Khatha No.150200202800402335** at Huskur Grama Panchayath, measuring **East to West 80 feet and North to South 50 feet,** totally measuring 4000 sq. ft., and bounded as under:

East by : Site Nos.132 & 133
West by : 60 feet Road
North by : Site No.109
South by : Site No.111

Sri. SHIVARAJA, Advocate
No.888, 3rd Cross, 5th Main, M.C. Layout, Vijayanagara, Bangalore -560040.
Email id: hegdeylp@gmail.com,
Mob: 9845770270

PUBLIC NOTICE

It is brought to the notice of the General Public that my client viz., **Mrs. Nagamma @ Nagamma Sankar Bagepalli** has lost/misplaced the original Gift Deed dated.21/10/2015, registered as Document No.5540/2015-16, registered in the office the Sub registrar, K.R.Puram, Bangalore in respect of Property bearing of Site Nos. 12, 13 & 14, Situated at **Nagareshwara Nagenahalli Village,** K.R.Puram Hobli, Bangalore East Taulk, in regarding my client has Filed a missed complaint in on.26/12/2025, vide Lost Report No.1976736/2025.

If any persons Found the said original document please kindly inform the undersigned.

SRI VINAYAKA ASSOCIATES,
Advocates,
No.999/8, Second Floor, ORR,
Horamavu, Bangalore-560 043.
Mob: 9591720993

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform all Institutions and General public that our clients intend to purchase the schedule property, presently belong to **SMT. PADMA** W/o LATE M. ANAND, RESIDING AT No. 127, 3rd Cross, 2nd Main, 4th Phase, J.P. Nagar, Dollors Layout, Bangalore-560078 and has entered into an Agreement dated: 15.12.2025 to Purchase the commercial site described below:

Any person, bank, financial institution, or authority having any right, title, interest, charge, lien, mortgage, agreement, litigation, acquisition claim or objection of whatsoever nature over the above-mentioned property is hereby called upon to notify the same in writing with documentary proof to the undersigned within **7 days** from the date of publication of this notice. Failing which our clients will proceed to complete the sale transaction, objection received thereafter will not bind our client whatsoever, in respect of the schedule property. Further the owner states that the schedule property is not a subject matter of any civil litigation.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that part and parcel of the property bearing Site No.941, (PID No. 3320100992) Situated at Banashankari 6th Stage, 10th Block, Bangaluru, Karnataka measuring East to West 15.00 Meters and North to South 24.00 Meters totally measuring 360 square Meters and Bounded on the :-

East By : Site No.940, **West by :** Site No.942, **North by:** Site Nos.1008 and 1009, **South by:** 100 feet Road.

Issued by : **P. Anitha**, Advocate
Mob:8197291949
Address: No. 215, 3rd Main, # Floor
OPP: TO HMS Complex, Cubbonpete Main Road, Bengaluru-560002.
Date : 30.12.2025 Place : Karnataka

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public on behalf of my client Sree Thyagaraja Co-operative Bank, N.R.Colony Branch, Bengaluru-560 019 rep. by its C.E.O. that my client intends to return the original documents pertaining to the below mentioned Property bearing No.53, Old CMC Khatha No.31/1/53/54, New Khatha No.889 situated at 6th cross, Shanti Lay-out, Kowdenahalli Village, Ramamurthy Nagara, I.T.I. Notified Area, K.R.puram Hobli, Bengaluru East Taluk, which was mortgaged by Sri Raviraj T.Shetty by way of Deposit of Title deed dated 22/2/2004. During the subsistence of the Mortgage, Sri Raviraj T.Shetty and his wife executed an unregistered Power of Attorney on 28/2/2004 in favour of Smt.G.R.Sujatha. Subsequently Smt.G.R.Sujatha sold the schedule property in favour of Sri R.S. Palakshaiah and Sri R.P. Srikanth through registered Sale deed dated 19/4/2014. The present owners Sri R.P.Srikanth and another have requested for return of original documents hypothecated by the earlier mortgagers. My client has issued Notice to Sri Raviraj T.Shetty to his last known address which has been returned with postal endorsement LEFT. My client by virtue of Sale Deed intends to return the original documents of the said property to Sri R.P.Srikanth and Smt.Sujatha.G.R. If anyone has got any objections for return of original documents to Sri R.P.Srikanth and Smt.G.R.Sujatha they may file their objections to the undersigned within 15 days from the date of publication of this Notice and if no objections are received within the stipulated time, the Bank may return the original documents and issue Discharge Certificate.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of the immovable property bearing site No.53, Old CMC Khatha No.31/1/53/54, New Khatha No.889, situated at 6th cross, Shanti Lay-out, Kowdenahalli Village, Ramamurthy Nagara, I.T.I. Notified Area, K.R.puram Hobli, Bengaluru East Taluk, measuring East to West : 40-0 ft. and North to South : 34-0 ft. in all measuring 1360 sq. ft. bounded on

East by : Site No.52, **West by** : Site No.54., **North by** : Road, **South by** : Road.

H.R. SADANANDA, ADVOCATE
Dated : 29.12.2025

QuoteExpress
WHEN YOU REACH THE END OF YOUR ROPE, TIE A KNOT IN IT AND HANG ON
FRANKLIN D ROOSEVELT

IN THE COURT OF THE XIX ADDL. CITY CIVIL AND SESSIONS JUDGE (CCH-18) AT BENGALURU

P & Sc. No. 702/2025

BETWEEN : 1. Sri. SHYAM SUNDAR, S/o late K.Balaji, Aged about 66 years, R/at. Flat No:09, Pine Block, Alliance Orchid Springs, 54, Water Canal Road, Near DRJ Hospital, Korattur RS, Tiruvallur, Tamil Nadu-600076.
Now R/at No. 194, 3rd Cross, Cambridge Layout, Halsuru, Bengaluru East, HAL 2nd Stage, Bengaluru-560008. **...PETITIONER No.1**
2. Sri. MOHAN BALAJI, S/o late K.Balaji, Aged about 61 years, R/at No: 43281, Livermore Common, Fremont, California – 94539, United States of America. **...PETITIONER No.2**
R/by his Power of Attorney Holder And his brother Sri. SHYAM SUNDAR, S/o late K.Balaji, Aged about 66 years
AND: -NIL- ...RESPONDENT

PUBLIC NOTICE

Whereas, the above named petitioner have instituted the above Petition under Section 276 and 372 of the Indian Succession Act, to issue succession certificate and Letter of Administration in favour of the Petitioners to get the death benefits of deceased Saroja Balaji mother of petitioner herein, who died on 22.06.2024, in respect of the schedule properties mentioned herein.

Interested parties are hereby called upon to appear in this Hon'ble court in person or by a pleader duly instructed **on the 26th day of February 2026 at 11:00 a.m.** in forenoon to show cause against the petition failing wherein, the matter will be heard and disposed as exparte.

SCHEDULE 'A' PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the residential Property bearing **BDA Site No.614, BBMP Property No.60, PID No:9-65-60,** measuring East to West 45 feet and North to South 34 feet, in all measuring 1530 Sq.Ft., situated at 2nd Main Road, 'E' Block, Subramanyanagar, Rajajinagar II Stage Extension, Bengaluru, now comes under BBMP Ward No:66, consisting of Ground and First Floor RCC building, and bounded as follows:

East by : Road, **West by :** C.A Property, **North by :** Site No.613, **South by :** Road.

SCHEDULE 'B' PROPERTY

1) Savings Bank Account at Indian Bank, Rajajinagar 1st Block Branch, Bengaluru, with A/c No: 453253445 in the name of deceased Saroja Balaji.
2) Fixed Deposit Account at Indian Bank, Rajajinagar 1st Block Branch, Bengaluru, with F.D.A/c No: 6638175463 for a sum of Rs.2,89,820/- in the name of deceased Saroja Balaji.
3) Fixed Deposit Account at Indian Bank, Rajajinagar 1st Block Branch, Bengaluru, with F.D.A/c No: 6691649873 for a sum of Rs.2,89,820/- in the name of deceased Saroja Balaji.
4) Fixed Deposit Account at Indian Bank, Rajajinagar 1st Block Branch, Bengaluru, with F.D.A/c No: 6831184761 for a sum of Rs.3,70,444/- in the name of deceased Saroja Balaji.
5) Fixed Deposit Account at Indian Bank, Rajajinagar 1st Block Branch, Bengaluru, with F.D.A/c No: 6900423088 for a sum of Rs.2,35,886/- in the name of deceased Saroja Balaji.
6) Fixed Deposit Account at Indian Bank, Rajajinagar 1st Block Branch, Bengaluru, with F.D.A/c No: 7008714462 for a sum of Rs.3,46,596/- in the name of deceased Saroja Balaji.
7) Fixed Deposit Account at Indian Bank, Rajajinagar 1st Block Branch, Bengaluru, with F.D.A/c No: 7075621840 for a sum of Rs.2,23,965/- in the name of deceased Saroja Balaji.
8) Fixed Deposit Account at Indian Bank, Rajajinagar 1st Block Branch, Bengaluru, with F.D.A/c No: 7173044439 for a sum of Rs.2,21,322/- in the name of deceased Saroja Balaji.
9) Fixed Deposit Account at Indian Bank, Rajajinagar 1st Block Branch, Bengaluru, with F.D.A/c No: 7322698113 for a sum of Rs.2,00,000/- in the name of deceased Saroja Balaji.

Given under my hand and seal of the court this the 27th day of December 2025.

By Order of the Court, Senior Sheristedar, City Civil Court, Bengaluru.
Advocate for Petitioner :
Mr. G. MANJUNATHA, Advocate
No.34, 2nd Floor, HHS & HMS Complex, Cubbonpet Main Road, Bangalore-560002.
PH:9900110203

PUBLIC NOTICE

BE KNOWN TO ALL that our clients **Mr. H. KISHORE KUMAR SOLANKI and Mrs. BHAVANA H.K.,** have intended to purchase the Property mentioned in the Schedule Property from its owners-**Mr. KARUMURU SUBBARAMAIAH S/o. Karumuru Thukaram, and Mr. SUNNAPU MADHURI, W/o Karumuru Subbaramaiah,** both residing at 34, 2nd Floor, 20th "A" Main, 1st Cross, Venkateshwara Layout, Maruthinagar, Madiwala, BTM 1st Stage, Old KEB Office Road, Behind More Super Market, Madiwala, Bangalore-560068, If any person/s entity has any claim/objection in the matter of the intended sale of the Schedule Property or any part, thereof, such a person submit its/his/ her/their claim/objection with documentary proof thereof to the undersigned in writing within **Fifteen (15) days** from the date of this notice, failing which it would be presumed that there are no claims/objections and our clients shall proceed with the purchase of the Schedule Property.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of residential property bearing House List/Site Nos. **11 and 12** in Katha No.341/1, E.P.I.D No. 2963830416, Sy.No.53/2B, Assessment No. 130/53/2B/11-12, situated at **Konappana Agrahara Village, Begur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk,** comes under the jurisdiction of Konappana Agrahara Municipality, Bangalore, measuring East to West: **(54+58)/2 Feet** and North to South: **58 Feet,** totally measuring **3248 Square Feet,** together with RCC roofed residential building constructed thereon with all civic amenities and bounded on;

East by : Conservancy Galli, West by : Road, North by : Property No. 15, South by : Private Property.

KRISHNAMURTHY. P, Advocate
No.11, 1st Floor, "MEERA NIVAS"
Opp: Sai Baba Temple, North Park Road, Seshadripuram, Bangalore-560 020.
Mob: 9740718436

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the public that the original Advance Sale Agreement dated 30/11/2011 executed between **Sri. K. Devaraju, Smt. Jayalakshmamma, Miss. Jeevithashri, Master Amruth Gowda** (the owners) and **Smt Rashmi P Ambali** (the purchaser) for the below properties

Item.No.1: For the property bearing Sy No. 402, measuring 39 Guntas, Sy.No.72/Block-20,measuring 1 Acre 20 Guntas, Sy.No.72/P2 measuring 1 Acre, in all measuring 3 Acres 19 Guntas situated at Hosuru Village, Bidadi Hobli, Ramanagara Taluk & Dst, Bounded : East by: Land belongs to Chaluvaiah and H.K.Shivraju, West by: Land belongs to Srinivas, North by: Government land, South by: Land belongs to Shivanna and Chaluvaiah,

Item.No.2: For the property bearing Sy.No.72/P4, measuring 1 Acre 20 Guntas situated at Hosuru Village, Bidadi Hobli, Ramanagara Taluk & Dst, Bounded on East by: Land belongs to Shivaramu and Road, West by : Land belongs to Narasamma and others, North by: Land belongs to Shivanna. South by: TMT India Ltd.Road,

has been lost. The report of the same has been lodged at the police station. If found, kindly return the document to the undersigned within 7 days from the date of publication of this notice.

Further, all persons are hereby informed not to deal with or carry out any transaction with the said landowners regarding the above property. If anyone has already carried out or is carrying out any such transaction, kindly inform the undersigned in writing at the below-mentioned address within 7 days from the present notice.

Lex i Advocates - Chandra Chooda
No.12, Anu Arcade, 3rd floor, CMH Road, Indranagar , Bangalore 560 008.
Ph- 97422 58221.

BEFORE THE HON'BLE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL-II AT BANGALORE
(BSNL Building, 4th Floor, Telephone House, Rajbhavan Road, BENGALURU-560001)
O. A. No: 2095/2024

BETWEEN : BANK OF BARODA, SOUTH END ROAD BRANCH, Ground floor, No. 16/1, Basavanagudi, Southend Road, Bangalore-560004 .....**Applicant**

V/s

M/s. NISHANTH NELSON & Others .Defendants

SUMMONS TO DEFT. No. 1 AND 2 BY WAY OF PAPER PUBLICATION ISSUED UNDER RULE-23 (VIII) OF THE DEBTS RECOVERY TRIBUNAL (PROCEDURE) RULES,1993

DEFENDANT NO.1: Mr. NISHANTH NELSON No.12, BBMP Khatha no.26/155/1/12, HL. No. 1878. 2nd cross road, Stage-1, Kacharakanahalli village, Kasaba Hobli, Bengaluru-560084.

DEFENDANT NO.2: Mr. NIDHIN BERNAD NELSON, TC-75/1133, Sweet Home CRA-128, Near Chayakudy Lane, Thiruvananthapuram KERALA-695024.

WHEREAS the above-named Applicant has instituted the application U/S 19 of the Recovery of Debts Due to Banks & Financial Institutions Act, 1993, against the defendants for recovery of a sum of **Rs.2,22,49,280.28/-(Rupees Two Crore twenty two Lakhs Forty Nine thousand Two Eighty rupees and Twenty eight paise only)** as on **20.07.2024,** together with further cost and interest. You are hereby required to show cause within 30 days of the service of the **summons or on 30.01.2026 at 10:30 a.m.** as to why the remedy prayed for should not be granted.

Take Notice that, in case of default the application will be heard and determined in your absence.

Given under my hand and seal of this Tribunal on this the **29-12-2025 at Bengaluru.**

By Order Of The Tribunal, Registrar Debts Recovery Tribunal-II Bangalore

PUBLIC NOTICE

The general public is hereby informed that our client **Mr. SASIKUMAR KOLANDHAN GANESAN** S/o. Ganesan, Residing at No.2/259, Vetri Nagar Unjapalaiyam Animur, Namakkal, Tamil Nadu – 637214, intends to purchase the property morefully described in the schedule hereunder from its present joint owners Smt. SHAKUNTALALA SASTRY, Smt. Sandhya Gopalakrishna, Smt. Nalini Sastry Pandey, Smt. Brinda Sastry and Mr. Vidyashankar Gopalkrishna, children of Late TSG SASTRY, If any person/s or entity/authority having any right, title, interest and objections over the scheduled property may lodge their claims/objections in writing supported by relevant documents to the undersigned within 07 days from the date of publication. In case of non-receipt of objections or claims within the aforesaid period our client shall presume that there are no claims/objections for purchase.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel residential house built on the New site No.22 and old municipal site No.455 & 456, EPID Property No.22/16, EPID No. 3778891303, measuring East to West 80 feet and North to South 50 feet, in all admeasuring 4000 square feet, situated near 11th Main Road (12th Main), Malleswaram, Bangalore City and bounded on the: **East by :** Site No.3
West by : Road
North by : Site No.23
South by : Site No.21
The house specifications: Flooring : Mosaic
Doors : Flush Doors
Windows : MS Steel Windows
Roof : R.C.C
Total built up area of the building is 1183 sq sf, with electricity and water facilities.

Date :29/12/2025 **Place** : Bangalore
(Venkata Shivareddy J.S) Advocate
No.164, 1st Floor, Maruthinagar
Kodigehalli Main Road, Sahakarnagar
Bengaluru-560092, Mob No.9066066746

PUBLIC NOTICE

Under the instructions and authority given by my client Shri. Pranesh S/o Chidambar Kulkarni and Smt. Prerana W/o Pranesh Kulkarni R/o Hulagur Village, Shiggon Taluk Now at: House No: 82 Ground Floor, 4th cross, Manjunath Layout, BTM 4th stage Bengaluru 560076, I Laxman S/o. Chidambar Kulkarni, advocate, Hubli, do here by issuing this public notice as under :

That my client intends to purchase Property bearing Vacant Site No. 38, formed in Converted Sy. No.321/1 (Converted into Residential purposes by the Office of the Spl. Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore District, Bangalore vide Order No. ALN.SR(S)18/2001-02, Dated 04-05-2001) Katha No. 630, BBMP Katha No. 2904/321/1/38, EPID NO: 4533054490, Situated at Begur Village, Begur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore Presently Comes under Bruhath Bangalore Mahanagara Palike Limits, and measuring East to West 41.5 ft and North to South 30 ft totally measuring 1245 Sq. ft. from Shri. B. Kumaraswamy Reddy Hence, this fact has brought to the notice of public at large, if any one get objections regarding above said property kindly furnish to the below said address within 15 days from the date of notice issued along with valid documents.

HUBBALLI. Sd/- **Laxman C. Kulkarni**
Dt. 29-12-2025 Advocate
"Wagdevi Law Chamber", 2nd Floor, Above Harsha Fast Food, Shirur Park Circle, Vidyanagar,
HUBLI. Mobile : 7411905757, 7768896440

PUBLIC NOTICE

The General Public is hereby notified that my client has negotiated to purchase the schedule property, described in the Schedule hereunder, from its present owners Sri S. Rajasekharan and Smt. R. Jayalakshmi.

If any other person or persons or financial institution or Bank has any claim or objections over the schedule property or any person or persons claim any right, title or interest, over the schedule property, the same may be lodged with the undersigned **within 10 (TEN) days** from today, along with relevant claim documents, failing which, it will be presumed that the schedule property is free from any such claim and my client would proceed to purchase the Schedule Property and any claim received thereafter will not bind my client and would not be considered by my client. The public are hereby cautioned not to deal or transact with the said property since the same is offered to be sold to my client.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of the Southern Portion of Property bearing Vacant Site No. 70 and Site No. 71, Khatha No. 47/70 & 71, earlier said property came under the limits of Rajarajeshwarinagara Sabhe, now within the limits of Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike, Ward No. 160-Rajarajeshwarinagara, BBMP Khatha No. 47/70 & 71, Present BBMP Property No. 70 & 71, situated at Hosakerehalli Village. Uttarahalli Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, Bangalore. And Measuring East to West: (56.5 +63)/2 feet and North to South (60+60.8)/2 totally measuring 3608.9 Square feet & bounded on

East by : Road
West by : Private Property
North by : Remaining portion of the site no. 70
South by : Site. No 72.

J. N. Alasingar, Advocate
#193, 5th Main, 3rd Cross, J. P. Nagar 3rd Phase, Bangalore - 560078
Phone No. 9900095158
Bangalore Dated: 29/12/2025

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the General Public that our clients have negotiated with Mr. Seenappa.A, S/o Abbaiah, aged about 53 years, residing at No.325, Varthur Main Road, behind Dharmaraya Swamy Temple, Ramagondanahalli, Bangalore – 560066. It is represented to our clients that Mr. Seenappa.A is the present owner of the Schedule Property and he have absolute right to transfer the Schedule Property in favour of our client. Any person(s) claiming any right, title or interest of whatsoever nature over the Schedule Property is hereby called upon to lodge such claim with the undersigned, with supporting documents within 7 days from the date of this publication. In the event no such claim(s) is received within the stipulated time, it shall be lawful for our clients to presume that there are no valid claim(s) adverse to Mr. Seenappa.A right, title and interest in the Schedule Property and proceeds with the proposed sale transaction.

SCHEUDLE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the property Immovable Property bearing Site No.26, measuring East to West 40 feet and North to South 30 feet, totally measuring 1200 Sq.feet, together with one Borewell and Motor, carved out of Sy.No. 65/4, measuring 23 Guntas, Converted vide Official Memorandum bearing No. 418401 dated 08/03/2023 and in Sy.No. 65/10 (old Sy.No.65/6) measuring 3 Guntas Converted vide Official Memorandum bearing No. 418402 dated 08/03/2023 issued by the Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore District, Bangalore, totally measuring 26 Guntas, situated at Ramagondanahalli Village, Varthur Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk and bounded on:

East by : 22 Feet Road,
West by : N.A.Narayanaswamy Property,
North by : Site No. 25,
South by : Site No. 27.

Ms. Ramya Srinivas,
Advocate & Consultant,
No. 210, 4th Cross,1st Main Road,
Siddapura, Bangalore – 560066.

QuoteExpress
KEEP YOUR EYES ON THE STARS, AND YOUR FEET ON THE GROUND
THEODORE ROOSEVELT

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to public that my client **Rakesh Kumar Shukla** states that original settlement cum rectification deed dated 01-06-2019 executed by Smt. R Kusuma and her children Master P Amith and Kumari P Hithashree being minors represented by their father K M Prakash all are represented by their GPA holder M/s. Mahaadeva Constructions represented by its proprietor Mohan Babu E P and M/s. Mahaadeva Constructions represented by its proprietor Mohan Babu E P in favour of Pavan Kumar Gonuguntla vide document No. ABL-1-01375/2019-20 stored in CD No. ABLD435 in the office of the sub-registrar Attibele is lost during transit.

If any body get any information about the said document/in the possession of the same/having any claim/interest in the schedule property may write/contact to the undersigned within 15 days with documentary proof failing which my clients will treat the certified copy of the said document as original and objections received thereafter is not binding upon my client.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of Flat No. B-110, First Floor, B Block having super built-up area of 1300 sqft and UDS of 375.71 sqft along with one covered car parking in MY NEST formed in Sy. No. 10/2 measuring 11 guntas, Sy. No. 10/3 measuring 10 ¼ guntas and Sy. No. 10/4 measuring 11 guntas in all measuring 32 ¼ guntas vide conversion order No. ALN(J)SR/37/2009-10 dated 15-10-2015 and the plan sanctioned by BDA vide letter No. BDA/NAMA/ASA/AA-1/THASA-2/S/24/2015-16 dated 31-10-2015, situated at Maragondanahalli Village, Jigani Hobli, Anekal Taluk. V P Khatha No. 238/377/10/2/10/3/10/4 & E-Swathu No. 150200102900721372.b Bounded on:

East by : Road & Remaining portion of Sy. Nos. 10/2, 10/3 & 10/4,
West by : Remaining portion of Sy. Nos. 10/2, 10/3 & 10/4, **North by :** Gollahalli Road,
South by : Thoti Yellappa's Land,

PURNIMA. K.S. ADVOCATE.
2710, 6th Main, 2nd Stage, K.S. Layout, Bangalore-560 078. Mb : 9886244736.

QuoteExpress
PROBLEMS ARE NOT STOP SIGNS, THEY ARE GUIDELINES
ROBERT H SCHULLER

यूनियन बैंक Union Bank of India
भारत सरकार का उपक्रम A Government of India Undertaking

ASSET RECOVERY BRANCH BENGALURU NORTH
#1234, 1st Floor, 4th main, Opp. Chandra Layout Bus Stand, Chandra Layout, Bengaluru - 560040.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to the public at large that Union Bank of India has declared the following borrower/person as Wilful Defaulters in terms of Bank's/RBI's extant rules and regulations, complying with the due process prescribed therein:

Sr. No.	Borrower	Proprietor
1	M/s. SAM TRADERS	Mrs. HEMAVATHI W/o. Velankanni Jesuraj A

Bank has sent suitable communication to the borrower/guarantor informing the decision of the bank to declare him/her/them as Wilful Defaulter. As permitted by the Reserve Bank of India, Bank publishes the photographs of the wilful defaulters for the information of the public at large.

Date: 29-12-2025 **For Union Bank of India**

AMARAVATI GROWTH AND INFRASTRUCTURE CORPORATION LTD.
Project Office, Rayapudi, Amaravati, AP - 522 237

Employment Notification No.2/2025, Dt. 29.12.2025

Notification is hereby issued for engagement of services in AGICL, Amaravati on contract basis. Online application is available in the APCRDA & AGICL website in careers tab and can be submitted from dt.30.12.2025 to dt.18.01.2026. For further details, please visit https://crda.ap.gov.in & www.agicl.org

Sl. No	Name of the Post	Nos
1	Chief Financial Officer	1
2	Company Secretary	1
3	Chief Business Officer	1
4	Investment Lead	1
5	Sr. Executives- Investment Promotion	2
6	Executive- Investment Promotion	2
7	Finance Expert	1
8	PPP Expert	1
9	Manager Marketing	1
10	Sr. Exe (Content writer, Advertisement and Communication - PR)	3

Sd/- Managing Director, AGICL, Amaravati.

Market Watch

MARKET			GOLD			SILVER			FOREX		
345.91 ↓	Sensex	84,695.54	₹3,170 ↓	24 carat (10 gm)	₹139,400	₹4,000 ↓	1 kg	₹258,000	↑ Dollar		89.97
100.20 ↓	Nifty	25,942.10	₹2,950 ↓	22 carat (10 gm)	₹127,800	₹40 ↓	10 gm	₹2,580	↓ Euro		105.84

Gold, silver prices fall 13% after record rally

Easing geopolitical tension between Ukraine and Russia, China's export curbs weigh down two precious metals

BENN KOCHUVEEDAN @ Mumbai

AFTER hitting life-time highs in the morning, precious metals gold and silver, along with copper, tanked up to 13% in the afternoon trade on Monday, weighed down by the easing geopolitical tension (US President Donald Trump met Ukrainian counterpart Volodymyr Zelenskyy to end war) and China's new export curbs on white metal, along with the higher margins imposed on silver futures contract by Western markets.

Prices of gold, silver and copper dropped in the afternoon after seeing a major bull run in the morning trade. While silver has rallied close to 145% so far this year, gold has done so by 79% in dollar terms, while in rupee terms domestic silver futures crossed ₹2.53 lakh on the MCX in Monday morning trade following the spot price of silver hit an all-time high at $82.95 an ounce (28.35 g) on the CME.

Silver market in 2025 has moved beyond a conventional bull cycle and entered a structural phase, driven by prolonged physical supply deficits, inventory depletion, and policy-led supply constraints

Navneet Damani, head of commodities research, Motilal Oswal Financial Services

So far in 2025, by rallying over 192% (in rupee terms) silver has outshone gold by a wide margin as the yellow metal has rallied nearly 79%—better than the 74% it had notched up in 1979, which was the best-ever annual rally for the yellow metal last week to the tune of 3.8% (gold) and over 14% (silver). Gold futures climbed to a record high of $4,581.30/ounce on the CME last weekend, while silver futures surged to nearly $79.70/ounce, the largest one-week dollar gain on record for silver.

In the domestic market, the silver futures on MCX peaked to ₹2,53,280/kg of 999 purity early on Monday, up 5.63% from its previous close at ₹2,39,787, while gold futures peaked at ₹1,39,940/10 grams last week, marking the seventh consecutive positive weekly close..

While the rally was fizzled out by afternoon trade as news of a likely end to the Ukraine after Trump met Zelenskyy and the news of Chinese curbs on silver exports from January 1 reached the market. Another immediate trigger was the major western exchanges increasing the margin money on silver futures by $5,000 to $25,000 per lot.

Gold futures with February expiry fell about 2% after nearing their lifetime high levels to fell to ₹1,37,646/10 grams while April and June contracts also fell nearly 2% after hitting fresh all-time highs earlier during the day. The futures contracts with May and July expiries also erased all gains, falling 9% and 10% respectively after hitting fresh lifetime highs during the day.

"Silver market in 2025 has moved beyond a conventional bull cycle and entered a structural phase, driven by prolonged physical supply deficits, inventory depletion, and policy-led supply constraints. The widening disconnect between paper pricing and physical availability highlights deeper stress in global price discovery mechanisms," Navneet Damani, head of commodities research at Motilal Oswal Financial Services, said.

Industrial output at 2-year high of 6.7%; mfg rebounds

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

INDUSTRIAL output surged to a 25-month high of 6.7% year-on-year in November, rebounding sharply from 0.5% growth in October, driven primarily by an 8% expansion in manufacturing, official data showed.

The impact of GST rate rationalisation was visible in the consumer goods segment, which recorded an 8.5% growth during the month as against a contraction of 3.5% in October. Strong merchandise exports also supported the overall uptick in industrial activity.

Within manufacturing, output of basic metals and fabricated metal products, pharmaceuticals, and motor vehicles saw robust growth. Mining output rose 5.4% in November, up from 1.9% in the previous month. Industrial activity had slowed in October due to the festive season. Electricity generation showed signs of recovery in November, with the contraction narrowing to 1.5% from 6.9% a month earlier.

"This upswing largely reflects the shift in the festive calendar, restocking after festive-season sales, and some normalisation in activity across the mining and electricity segments following excess unseasonal rains in the previous month," said Aditi Nayar, Chief Economist at ICRA Ltd.

However, tariff-hit sectors such as textiles, apparel, and leather continued to face pressure. For the April–November period this year, production fell by 0.6% in textiles, 2.3% in apparel, and 4.3% in leather compared with the same period last year. According to ICRA, the impact of US tariffs and penalties is likely to be felt across some manufacturing segments, partially offsetting the positive effects of the GST rate rejig.

Consumer durables output grew 10.3%, while consumer non-durables expanded by 7.3% during the month. Infrastructure and construction goods, intermediate goods, and consumer non-durables emerged as the top three contributors to IIP growth in November 2025, indicating steady demand across core, manufacturing-linked, and consumption-oriented segments of the economy.

Despite the strong November performance, industrial production growth during April–November 2025 stood at 3.3%, lower than the 4.1% recorded in the corresponding period last year.

Tariff-hit sectors still under pressure

Tariff-hit sectors like textiles, apparel, and leather continued to face pressure. For April–November period, output fell by 0.6% in textiles, 2.3% in apparel, and 4.3% in leather compared with the same period last year. As per ICRA, impact of US tariffs is likely to be felt across some segments.

FOREIGN TRADE

Duty-free Indian exports to Aus from January 1

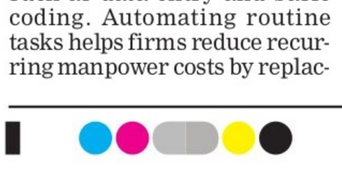
ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

ALL Indian exports will have 100% duty-free access to the Australian market from January 2026 under the Economic Cooperation and Trade Agreement (ECTA) between the two countries, Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal said on Monday.

The trade deal, initiated three years ago, has led to an 8% rise in Indian exports to Australia during 2024–25 financial year. "From January 1, 2026, 100% of Australian tariff lines will be zero-duty for Indian exports, unlocking fresh opportunities for labour-intensive sectors," Goyal said in a social media post. He added that the agreement has delivered tangible results. Over the past three years, the pact has driven sustained export growth, deeper market access and stronger supply-chain resilience, benefiting Indian exporters, MSMEs, farmers and workers alike.

The free trade agreement was signed in April 2022. India's trade deficit with Australia has since narrowed by more than 42%, falling to $6.9 billion in 2024–25 from $12.06 billion in FY2022–23, the year the pact was signed.

Growth in India's exports to Australia has been led by manufacturing sectors such as chemicals, textiles, pharmaceuticals, plastics and petroleum products, alongside a strong performance by gems and jewellery. Exports of gems and jewellery rose 16% during April–November 2025.



5 home-grown start-ups turn unicorn in 2025

SANAL SUDEVAN @ Chennai

INDIA saw five start-ups becoming unicorns in 2025 against 111 unicorns emerging globally. According to Tracxn Geo's India Tech Annual Funding Report 2025, these five new unicorns are Raise Financial Services, parent company of Dhan, financial digital app Navi, food and retail grocery platform Jumbotail, retail steel provider JSW One MSME, and payment orchestration platform Juspay.

The report says India has 124 unicorns, accounting for 6% of the global total, positioning it as the third-largest unicorn ecosystem after the US (1,104) and China (249). Global venture capitalists like Tiger Global Management, Peak XV Partners and Accel continued to be the top investors in the unicorns.

AAs per Tracxn report, India's unicorn ecosystem is highly concentrated in Bengaluru (52), Gurugram (20) and Mumbai (19), while Chennai and Pune have 7 unicorns each. The report notes Tier II and Tier III cities have begun producing unicorns, though their current emergence remains limited and sector-specific, largely enabled by digital-first distribution, improving logistics, and localised execution rather than broad ecosystem depth. Some of the key unicorns in tier II and III cities are Molbio Diagnostics in Salcette (Goa), Slice (Guwahati), OfBusiness (Ahmedabad), Infra.Market (Thane) and CarDekho (Jaipur).

However, profitability remains a concern for most unicorns.

BN $ COMPANIES OF 2025

PARTICULARS	INDIA	GLOBE
New Unicorns in 2025	5	111
Avg years from Series A to Unicorn round (yrs)	5.8	72
Avg $ funding before unicorn round ($ Mn)	149	171
Avg funding rounds before Unicorn round	3.4	3.5
Avg institutional investors before unicorn round	11	8.7

Profitable unicorns are concentrated in B2B, infrastructure, enterprise applications and fintech, where demand is recurring

Source: Tracxn

IndiGo increases pilot allowances after shortage led to mass cancellation

ARSHAD KHAN @ New Delhi

A month after an operational breakdown that led to mass cancellations of flights, IndiGo, India's largest airline, has decided to increase pilot allowances across duty types. The changes are effective January 1, 2026.

InterGlobe Aviation Ltd, IndiGo's parent company, has revised pilot allowances for domestic layovers, deadhead, overnight flights and domestic transit, as per a document seen by TNIE.

Captains' domestic layover allowance rose from ₹2,000 to ₹3,000 per 10-24 hours, while first officers' jumped from ₹1,000 to ₹1,500. Deadhead allowances for scheduled blocks increased from ₹3,000 (Captains) and ₹1,500 (first officers) to ₹4,000 and ₹2,000, respectively.

Deadhead allowance is compensation paid to pilots when they travel as passengers on a flight to reach a work location or return home. Though they are not flying plane, they are positioning for duty. Night allowances shifted from a 1.5x multiplier on block hours to fixed ₹2,000 per night hour for captains and ₹1,000 for first officers. Night allowance is additional pay for flight duties performed after midnight to compensate for physiological strain.

IndiGo introduced a tail-swap allowance for the first time at ₹1,500 for captains and ₹750 for first officers when aircraft changes exceed 90 minutes. This applies to all operating/deadhead sectors, unlike prior no-TA eligibility for some cases. Tail-swap allowance compensates pilots for extra workload involved in switching aircraft (changing "tails") during a single duty period.

Banks' bad loans at multi-decadal low in 2025

BENN KOCHUVEEDAN @ Mumbai

THE country's banking sector remains resilient, marked by strong balancesheet growth while bad loans have declined to a multi-decadal low, a central bank report has said.

The gross non-performing assets (NPA) ratio of banks has dropped to a multi-decadal low of 2.1% as of September 2025, from 2.2% as of March 2025, the Reserve Bank said in the 'trends and progress of banking report for FY25' released on Monday.

"Banks remain well-capitalised, with leverage and liquidity ratios well above the regulatory minimum. These strong fundamentals provide a buffer against risks and support the banking sector's capacity to sustain credit expansion," the central bank said.

Factors which stood out for the banking sector included profitability, asset quality and capital ratios. The RBI said profitability remained strong, as reflected in an increase in their return on assets, while asset quality improved further as gross NPAs ratio declined to a multi-decade low.

Asset quality of retail loans such as housing, education and credit card has improved even though certain segments continue to see strains, the report said. Within retail loans, the bad loan ratio for consumer durables is the highest, while within loans to industry, the leather and leather products segments continued to have the highest bad loan ratio.

Over the past two years, banks have gone slow on consumption-oriented credit like personal loans and credit cards as well as credit for consumer durable purchases and vehicles. This was due to the hike in risk weighted capital ratio to 125% in November 2023 over its concerns over a surge in small-ticket personal loans. But this was reversed earlier this earn but loans have not grown as fast as it used to be when it was trending above 30%.

Meanwhile, the asset quality of non-bank finance companies also improved further in 2024-25 amid sustained double-digit balance sheet growth, the RBI said. Banks' deposits and credit grew in double-digits percentages in FY25, but moderated from the previous year, the report said. And so did the profit growth due to lower interest margins, it said.

RBI to issue guidelines on mis-selling

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ Mumbai

THE Reserve Bank will issue a comprehensive set of norms on advertising, marketing and sales to the entities under its watch to help prevent the rising instances of mis-selling of financial products and services to consumers, apart from reviewing the instructions related to the conduct of recovery agents and loan recovery processes they employ, and issue harmonised instructions in this regard.

The regulator has also said its focus on digital frauds, customer protection, and cybersecurity will also go up in the coming days. The regulator further said it is planning to review extant instructions on the conduct of recovery agents and loan recovery, and issue harmonised instructions in this regard.

AI DRIVES LAYOFFS IN IT SECTOR; RESKILLING IN FOCUS

SANAL SUDEVAN @ Chennai

AS artificial intelligence (AI) adoption accelerates, India's information technology (IT) and start-up sectors are undergoing a period of upheaval marked by job cuts and growing uncertainty over the future role of programmers and coders.

Recently, IT industry veteran and Infosys co-founder N R Narayana Murthy said modern technologies would eliminate routine roles in the sector. Echoing this view, the Economic Survey 2024–25 noted that emerging technologies pose both threats and opportunities for labour markets worldwide.

With companies increasingly focusing on machine learning (ML), the sector is likely to see elimination of mundane roles such as data entry and basic coding. Automating routine tasks helps firms reduce recurring manpower costs by replacing them with one-time capital investments in technology.

India's largest IT services provider Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) undertook a major resizing exercise this year, announcing plans to lay off 2% of its workforce, or about 12,000 employees. However, employees and IT unions alleged nearly 38,000 staff were terminated in the second quarter. TCS stated it has so far laid off 6,500 employees.

In April, reports suggested Infosys had laid off 800 freshers—onboarded in October 2024—from its Mysuru campus for failing internal assessments, though the company denied the claims. In October, quick-commerce platform Zepto laid off 300 employees, with nearly 1,000 jobs lost since the start of the year. Ola's AI arm, Krutrim, has laid off 200 employees in 2025, including 50 from its linguistics team, as part of a strategic realignment.

Companies replacing mundane roles with automation

With companies increasingly focusing on machine learning (ML), the sector is likely to see elimination of mundane roles like data entry and basic coding. Automating routine tasks helps firms cut recurring manpower costs by replacing them with capital investments in technology

As per staffing firm Xpheno, 7,700 senior professionals in IT industry lost their jobs between mid-2024 and mid-2025 due to AI adoption, automation, economic pressures, and overhiring during the COVID-19 pandemic. An EY study this year found 24% of tasks in technology sector can be automated, while time spent on another 42% can be significantly reduced—freeing up 8–10 hours per week for corporate employees.

Cost optimisation

IT companies argue that retrenchment is largely driven by cost optimisation enabled by AI and ML. According to EY India's report, The AIdea of India 2025, OpenAI's GPT API costs have fallen by nearly 80% over the past two years.

AI adoption is no longer limited to IT, with sectors such as banking and financial services (BFSI), manufacturing, logistics, and healthcare also increasingly deploying the technology.

"In non-tech sectors, the impact is even more significant," said Nipun Sharma, CEO of TeamLease Degree Apprenticeship. "Manufacturing is a clear example. AI is being used for predictive maintenance, quality inspection, production planning, and supply-chain optimisation. This is creating demand for technicians, supervisors, and engineers who can work with AI-enabled systems on the shop floor. Jobs are not disappearing, but skill expectations within existing roles are rising sharply."

Redistribution of roles

Sanketh Chengappa, Director and Business Head (Professional Staffing) at Adecco India, said over 60% of BPOs and IT services firms have deployed robotic process automation (RPA) and AI to automate tasks such as data entry and HR onboarding, displacing manual roles. "On average, more than 30,000 AI and ML roles were posted each quarter, with AI-related positions recording combined growth rates exceeding 50% across industries," he said.

Sachin Alug, CEO of NLB Services, estimated that nearly two million tech jobs could be displaced by 2030, while about four million new AI-enabled roles may be created—indicating net employment growth if reskilling keeps pace.

Finish Line 2025

EXPRESS READ

ATM numbers dip as digital payments rise

NEW DELHI: The number of automated teller machines (ATMs) declined moderately in FY25, with the increase in digitisation, a RBI report said on Monday. The number of bank branches increased by over 2 per cent on the back of network expansion by the public sector banks, the report on Trend and Progress of Banking in India for FY25 said. *ENS*

Rupee falls 8 paise to close at 89.98 against $

NEW DELHI: The rupee depreciated eight paise to close at 89.98 (provisional) against the US dollar on Monday, weighed down by foreign fund outflows and a negative trend in domestic equities. Forex traders said persistent capital withdrawals from foreign investors, alongside heightened dollar demand from importers, dented investor sentiments. *ENS*

KONKAN RAILWAY CORPORATION LIMITED
(A Government of India Undertaking)

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER

Principal Chief Engineer, Konkan Railway Corporation Ltd., invites Open Tender in Single Bid system through E-Tendering on IREPS portal from eligible contractors for the following work. **Name of Work:** Supplying and stacking of ballast at Sindhudurg ballast depot, loading into KRCL hoppers, Unloading, Spreading and boxing of ballast in the jurisdiction of Senior Regional Engineer, Ratnagiri and Senior Regional Engineer, Karwar. **Tender Notice No.: KR-W-1-58-2025-14**. **Estimated Cost:** ₹ 5,32,04,045/- excluding GST. **Closing Date/Time:** 19.01.2026 up to 15:00 hrs for submission of online Offers/Bids. **Completion period:** Twelve months including monsoon. Manual offers shall not be accepted. Please visit https://ireps.gov.in website for details / participation. Corrigendum / addendum will be hosted in this website only.

BHARAT COKING COAL LIMITED
(A Mini Ratna Company)
(A subsidiary of Coal India Limited)

NOTICE

All the tenders* issued by Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL) for procurement of Goods, Works and Services are available on website of BCCL **www.bcclweb.in**, Coal India Limited (CIL) e-procurement portal **https://coalindiatenders.nic.in** and Central Public Procurement Portal **https://eprocure.gov.in**. In addition, procurement is also done through GeM portal **https://gem.gov.in**.

*This is applicable to all Open (Domestic / Global) Tenders issued through e-procurement portal of CIL.

This Notice is also available on BCCL Website: www.bcclweb.in

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public that I, the undersigned P.S. Gurumurthy has been appointed as court commissioner by the Hon'ble XLII Additional City Civil & Session Judge (C.C.H.No. 43), Bengaluru, to sell the property mentioned in the schedule hereunder in public auction. The general public are hereby informed that I am conducting the spot sale on **16.01.2026** at **11:00 A.M.** If any person/s are interested in purchasing the schedule property, they are hereby invited to participate in the public auction to be conducted at the schedule property on the aforesaid date with following terms and conditions:

a) The basic/reserve price in respect of the schedule property is fixed at Rs. 14,00,00,000/- (Fourteen Crores).
b) The bidders shall deposit Rs. 10 Lakhs as Earnest Money Deposit (EMD) to participate in the public auction.
c) The successful bidder shall pay 25% of bid amount at the spot.
d) The remaining sale consideration shall be paid by the successful bidder within 30 days from the date of auction.
e) If the successful bidder does not/fail to deposit the balance bid amount within **30 days** from the date of auction, the successful bidder shall forgo the EMD of Rs. 10 Lakhs and 25% of the bid amount and the shall not make any claim in respect of the same.
f) The EMD and the 25% of the bid amount shall be drawn by way of D.D. favouring the Registrar, City Civil Court, Bengaluru.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All the piece and parcel of the property bearing No.18, consisting of commercial building, situated at 1st Main Road, Ganganagar, Bengaluru-560032, measuring East to West 87 ½ feet and North to South 49 feet and bounded on: **East by:** Property bearing No.41, **West by:** Road, **North by:** Road, **South by:** Site bearing No.17.

P.S. GURUMURTHY, Advocate
No. 11/1, 1st Cross, CSI Compound,
Bangalore-560027. Ph: 9845817372

TAMIL NADU MEDICINAL PLANT FARMS & HERBAL MEDICINE CORPORATION LTD.,
(A Government of Tamil Nadu Undertaking)
Regd. Office: Anna Hospital Campus, Arumbakkam, Chennai-600 106
Phone: 044-26216696 E-mail: tampcolho@gmail.com

E-TENDER NOTICE Ref No.2127/Tam/NA/H&W/2025, 2128/Tam/NA/H&W/2025, 2129/Tam/NA/H&W/2025, 2130/Tam/NA/H&W/2025, 2131/Tam/NA/H&W/2025 & 1084/Tam/NA/2024,

E-Tenders with two covers system are invited from the eligible bidders for the supply of Siddha, Ayurveda, Homoeopathy, Unani Medicines & Y & N materials to NRHM wings & AYUSH H &W centres under the control of Commissioner of Indian Medicine and Homoeopathy Department & Supply of HPLC machinery for S.D.T.L (I.M). Eligibility of the tenderer and other conditions are stipulated in the Bid document. Complete e-tender document can be viewed and downloaded at free of cost from Government tender website **"https://tntenders.gov.in/nicgep/app"**. EMD to be paid & the bids to be submitted through e-tender portal only.

DIPR/6867/TENDER/2025 **GENERAL MANAGER**

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IN THE COURT OF THE PRINCIPAL CIVIL JUDGE J.M.F.C. AT DEVANAHALLI
CRL. Misc. No. 589/2025

Between :- Sri. Venkatesh. C. ...Petitioner
And:- The Tahsildar, Yelahanka Taluk ...Respondent

PUBLIC NOTICE

I the undersigned advocate on behalf of my client Sri. Venkatesh.C S/o Chikkappaiah, aged about 65 years, R/at: Singahalli Village, Jala Hobli, Yelahanka Taluk, Bengaluru Urban District have filed the above petition for the death certificate of my client's father namely Late.Chikkappaiah S/o Late. Munishamappa who died on 05.08.1984 at Singahalli Village, Jala Hobli, Yelahanka Taluk, Bengaluru Urban District If any parties who have objections may dispute regarding the same can appear before the Hon'ble Principal Civil Judge and JMFC at Devanahalli and the date of hearing on **05/02/2026 at 11.00 A.M.** in Crl. Mis No. 589/2025.

By Order of the Court
Sd/- Chief Ministerial Officer
Civil Judge & JMFC Court, Devanahalli

Address for Service:- Sri. A. Raviprakash
Office at :- Prashanthanagara, Budigere Road,
Devanahalli Town, Bengaluru Rural District

IN THE COURT OF THE HON'BLE XV ADDL CITY CIVIL & SESSIONS JUDGE AT BENGALURU (CCH-3)
O.S No. 8593/2024

BETWEEN : BANK OF BARODA K.G. Road Branch, No.02. Prithvi Building K.G. Road, Bangalore - 560009. Represented by its Assistant General Manager Mr. Kumar Kunal, S/o Prakash Agarwal, Aged about 39 Years. ...PLAINTIFF
AND : Mr. B.N. Kumar ...DEFENDANT

SUMMONS TO THE DEFENDANT UNDER ORDER V RULE 20(1) OF CIVIL PROCEDURE 1908

Mr. B.N. Kumar No.99, 1st Cross, Herohalli Govt School, Herohalli, Bangalore-560091 M.No: 9901334592

Whereas the plaintiff instituted a suit against you for recovery of Rs.4,44,251.70/- (Rupees Four Lakhs Forty Four thousand Two Hundred and Fifty One and Paisa Seventy only) as on 11.06.2024 along with current and further interest @ 10.10% p.a Compounded on monthly rent basics with a penal interest @ of 2% p.a., from 11.06.2024 to till the date of realization.

You are hereby summoned to appear before this Hon'ble court on **16/02/26 at 11.00 AM** in person or through the Advocate/pleader to answer the question to the same failing which the suit will be heard and determined as Ex-parte.

Given under my hand and seal of the court, this 9th day of December 2025.

By Order of the Court
Sd/- Senior Sheristedar
City Civil Court, Bengaluru

Padmashree M Advocate for Plaintiff
No.29. 3rd Cross, Vinayaka Layout,
Bhoopasandra, Bangalore - 560 094

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public are here by informed that my clients Mr.Bhaskar Thyagarajan and Mrs.Meera Joshi both are residing at # 711, 7th B Main Road 1st Block, HRBR Layout, Kalyan Nagar Bangalore-560043.

My client are the absolute owners, is in the possession of the all that piece and parcel of the Property bearing No.7BM-711, in HRBR, 1st Block Extension, Bangalore; Measuring East to West 18.30Mtrs and North to South 12.20Mtrs., Total measuring 223.29Sq.Mtrs., Presently within the limits of BBMP and bounded on:

East by : 7th 'B' Main Road
West by : Site No. 7AM-714 and 7AM-716
North by : Site No.7BM-713;
South by : Site No.7BM-709

My clients have lost the Original property documents i.e. Allotment Letter issued by the BDA dated 03.09.1988 and Possession Certificate issued by the BDA dated 13.10.1988 in the name of Mr. Thyagarajan.

The said property is in the possession of Mr.Bhaskar Thyagarajan and Mrs.Meera Joshi (Both are the legal heirs of Late.Thyagarajan) they are the absolute owners and free from all encumbrance whatsoever.

My Clients had lost the above mentioned documents; in spite of several efforts the Original allotment and Possession copies are not found and they have lodged the police complaint through online dated 28.12.2025, Lost report No. 1980045/2025.

My Clients are selling this property anyone having any claim or interest over the said property; he/she is requested to forward their claims along with the relevant documents to us within 15days of this public notice. If we do not receive any claim from any person within 15 days, it will be strictly presumed that this property is absolutely free from any claim or encumbrance and no one has any claim over this property and if any One found the above mentioned documents kindly contact below mentioned

PREMA B DUBAE - ADVOCATE
FFD VI, 4th Floor, Sampoorna Chambers,
Vasavi Temple Road, V.V. Puram
Bengluru-560004.
080-42053588/080-42296969

STATE BANK OF INDIA
SME BRANCH, KUMARA PARK, # 20,
BADAGUNADU SANGHA ROAD, KUMARAPARK WEST,
BENGALURU – 560 020, E-mail Id: sbi.08577@sbi.co.in

POSSESSION NOTICE (For Immovable property) [Rule 8(1)]

A/C: 44296168413 / 42620340246 / DRS

The undersigned being the Authorised officer of the **State Bank of India, SME BRANCH, KUMARA PARK Bengaluru,** under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and in exercise of powers conferred under Section 13 (12) read with rule 3 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002 issued a **Demand Notice dated 18.10.2025** calling upon the **Borrowers:- M/s. SHREE GOLD, Represented by Partners: - 1. LAXMILAL ARATHI & 2. BHARTESH S GANDHI,** # Shop @ Ground Floor, Shop No. 84, Chowdeshwari Street, Bengaluru -560002, **1. LAXMILAL ARATHI,** Res @ No. 6, 2ndp Main, Kamakshipalya, Bengaluru North Basaveshwara Nagar, Bengaluru – 560079, **2. BHARTESH S GANDHI,** Res @ No. 3/1, Prem Nivas, 2nd Cross, Magdi Main Road,Bengaluru North Near Water Tank Bengaluru - 560023, to repay the amount mentioned in the notice being **Rs. 5,10,89,943/- (Rupees Five Crore Ten Lakh Eighty-Nine Thousand Nine Hundred and forty-three Only)** within 60 days from the date of receipt of the said notice.

The borrowers having failed to repay the amount, notice is hereby given to the borrowers and the public in general that the undersigned has taken possession of the property described herein below in exercise of powers conferred on him/her under Sub Section 4 of Section 13 of Act read with rule 8 of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules.2002 on this **29-12-2025**.

The borrowers in particular and the public in general is hereby cautioned not to deal with the property and any dealing with the property/ hypothecated Assets will be subject to the charge of the State Bank of India for an amount **Rs. 5,22,39,845/- as on 29/12/2025 and interest from 29/12/2025 charges thereon,** till the realization of the dues. The borrower's attention is invited to provisions of Sub Section (8) of the Section 13 of the Act, in respect of, time available to redeem the secured Assets.

(Details of Hypothecated Assets/movable Properties)

Current Assets including Stocks, Stocks in trade Receivables, Consumable, stores and spares and entire current assets including stocks, book debts, receivables, consumable Present and future stores, Plant and Machineries, Raw materials, semi-finished goods etc., mentioned in the documents (Schedule-B) as per Arrangement Letter /Hypothecation Agreement.

Date : 29-12-2025
Place: Bangalore
Sd/- Authorised Officer, STATE BANK OF INDIA

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby issued to the public at large that my client, Smt. Shailaja Atul Sulakhe & Others, presently residing at RH-18, Hermes Heritage-II, Shastrinagar, Yerwada, Pune - 411006, Maharashtra, has entered into an Agreement to Purchase the immovable property more fully described in the Schedule below from the current owner Mr. Sridhar G. Narsingh, residing at No. 1751, 10th Cross, 4th Main, Sahakarnagar C-Block, Bengaluru North, Bengaluru - 560092.

The present owner had earlier acquired the said property from Mr. Atul Bhaskar Mahamuni, through a registered General Power of Attorney executed in favour of Mr. Amol Bhaskar Mahamuni. The said GPA is registered before the Senior Sub-Registrar Office, Shivajinagar, Bengaluru, as Document No. 746/02-03 of BIC-IV dated 27.01.2003. It is stated that the original GPA document has been misplaced.

Any person(s) claiming any right, title, interest, or objection whatsoever in respect of the said property-whether by way of sale, mortgage, lease, gift, lien, inheritance, encumbrance, charge, possession, trust, maintenance, easement, or any other manner-are hereby called upon to notify the same to the undersigned at the address mentioned below, along with certified documentary proof, within 14 (Fourteen) days from the date of publication of this notice.

Failure to lodge any claim or objection within the stipulated period shall be construed that no such claim exists, or that the concerned person(s) have waived or abandoned their rights, if any. Thereafter, my client shall proceed to complete the proposed Sale Transaction, and any claim received beyond the stipulated period shall not be entertained and will not be binding on my client.

SCHEDULE OF THE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the immovable property bearing Site No.349-C, measuring 30 ft North to South and 50 ft East to West in all measuring 1500 sqft along with house constructed on it, 13th Main road, Shanthi Niketan layout with khata No.357/697/666/605/349-C of Arakere village, Begur Hobli, Bengaluru South, Bengaluru, India together with all rights, easements and appurtenances thereto, and bounded as follows:

North : Plot No. 348-C, South : Plot No. 350-C, East : Plot No. 362-C, West : Road.

Advocate : **Shailaja Venkat**
Shailaja Law Associates
No.29, 4th Main, Arekere Mico Layout,
BG Road, Bengaluru. Ph : 9972233600
Date : 29.12.2025, Place : Bengaluru

PUBLIC NOTICE

Notice is hereby given to public at large my client M/s. Vedabhoomi Heights., presently known as M/s. Veda Bhoomi Housing, a partnership firm having its office at: No. 2707, B and C, 2nd Floor, E-Block, 14th Main, Sahakaranagar, Bangalore-560092, has lost 1. Sale Deed dt. 15-04-2005., executed by Chikkamuniyappa and His Children 1. C. Venkategowda and 2. Gangadhara in favour of Sri. H.K. Vishwanth, and registered as doc no. DNH-1-00278-2005-06, DNHD46, Book-1, registered, in the office of Sub-Registrar, Devanahalli., 2. Sale Deed dt. 26-09-2007., executed by Sri. H.K. Vishwanth, in favour of Sri. K.N. Govindaraju and registered as doc no. DNH-1-03588-2007-08, DNHD137, Book-1, registered, in the office of Sub-Registrar, Devanahalli. 3. General Power of Attorney dt. 21-08-2008, executed Sri. K.N. Govindaraju in favour of Sri. Munianjinappa and registered as doc no. DNH-4-000505-2007-08, DNHD146, Book-4, registered, in the office of Sub-Registrar, Devanahalli. 4. Sale Deed dt. 12-03-2008, executed by Sri. K.N. Govindaraju represented by his GPA holder Sri. Munianjinappa in favour of Sri. Shivanna and registered as doc no. DNH-1-03588-2007-08, DNHD137, Book-1, registered, in the office of Sub-Registrar, Devanahalli. 5. Discharge Deed dt. 29-06-2016, executed by Sri. Kolli Ravikrishna In favour of Sri. Shivanna and others and registered as doc no. DNH-1-03077-2016-17, DNHD603, Book-1, registered, in the office of Sub-Registrar, Devanahalli & 6. Joint Development agreement dt. 04-02-2017, entered into between M/s. Vedabhoomi Heights with M/s. Ramabhoopal Builders and registered as doc no. DNH-1-10017-2016-17, DNHD628, Book-1, registered, in the office of Sub-Registrar, Devanahalli.,with respect to property bearing Sy No.9/2, to an extent of 2 acres. 1 gunta, residentially converted by vide Order No. ALN (Devi) SR 30/2013-14 Dated: 03.07.2014 situated at Irigenahalli Village, Vijayapura Hobli, Devanahalli Taluk, Bangalore Rural District, in this regard my client has also preferred a police complaint on 26-12-2025 through Online vide LOST REPORT No. 1977795/2025, that my client has not created any charge over the property covered under the above said document. Certified Copy of the lost document under the above said reference procured shall be treated as the original title deeds in respect of the Schedule Property belongs to M/s. Vedabhoomi Heights., presently known as M/s. Veda Bhoomi Housing, If found, the document may kindly be delivered to the under mentioned address, any objection from the concerned public will not be entertained or bind my client after 15 (fifteen) days from the date of this public notice.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY.

All that piece and parcel of the immovable property bearing Sy No.9/2, to an extent of 2 acres. 1 gunta, residentially converted by vide Order No. ALN (Devi) SR 30/2013-14 Dated: 03.07.2014 situated at Irigenahalli Village, Vijayapura Hobli, Devanahalli Taluk, Bangalore Rural District, and bounded on the: **East by:** Sy No. 11, **West by:** Sy. No. belongs to Smt. Munikalamma, **North by:** Land belongs to Motappa, **South by:** Sy No. 12.

Mahesh Kumar M.H., Advocate
No.56/A, 3rd Floor, 3rd Cross, 24th Main,
Bangalore-78 **Mob : 9686751274**

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to notify the general public that our client intends to enter into Joint Development Agreement with **Sri. Jayakumar T,** S/o Thimmaraya Reddy residing at # 307 BSR Sai Homes, Adugodi Road, Shanimahathma Temple, Koramangala 8th Block, Bangalore, with respect to agriculture property bearing Survey No.73/3 measuring 2 acres 34 guntas, situated at Vabasandra Village, Jigani Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bengaluru District, which are more fully described in the schedule hereunder and hereinafter referred to as **"Schedule Property"**.

Notice is hereby given to the general public that any person/s other than the Owner, asserting any right, title, charge, lien, claim/s or any interest whatsoever in respect of the Schedule Property is hereby called upon to submit to the undersigned, their claim/s, if any, over the Schedule Property or their objections, if any, to the aforementioned transaction. The said claim/s or objections must be in writing, together with documentary proof of such claim/s or objections, so as to reach us at the address given below within a period of **07 (Seven) days** from the date of publication of this notice. If no such claim/s or objections are received, it shall be deemed that no one else other than the Owner has/ have any right, title, interest or claim/s whatsoever in respect of the Schedule Property and our Client would be at liberty to proceed with the aforesaid transaction in connection with the Schedule Property.

SCHEDULE
(Description of the Schedule Properties)

All that piece and parcel of Portion of the agricultural vacant land bearing Survey No. **73/3** admeasuring **2 acres 34 guntas** out of 3 acres 16 guntas, situated at **Vabsandra Village,** Jigani Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore District and bounded by:

East by : Land bearing of Survey No. 74.
West by : Remaining portion of land bearing Survey No. 73/3
North by : Land bearing Survey No. 72 and 73/2, 8 & 9 and
South by : Land bearing Survey No. 64.

HARSHAVARDHAN .R, Advocate
12 Nandi View Layout, Dinnur Road,
RT Nagar, Bengaluru-32. Ph: 9740970555
Email: harshavardhan27@gmail.com
Date: 29.12.2025

TAMIL NADU POLICE HOUSING CORPORATION LTD
(A Government of Tamil Nadu Undertaking)
(AN ISO 9001 - 2015 CERTIFIED COMPANY)
South Circle
No.1 Inspector Quarters, TSP 6th Battalion Campus, New Natham Road, Madurai - 625 014.
email id: spndengrsc.tnphcl@tn.gov.in Phone: 0452-2903019

e-tender Invitation for Bids No: 44/2025-2026 **Dated: 26.12.2025**

Name of Work	Approximate value of work in Lakhs (2025-2026)
1) Construction of New District Jail with a capacity of 500 Prisoners along with young offenders Correctional facility to accommodate 60 Young offenders at **THIRUMALAISAMUDIRAM VILLAGE** in Thanjavur District	**₹ 2850.35 + GST @ 18%**

1) For Tender document, visit **https://tntenders.gov.in**
2) Date and Time for downloading and submission the tender documents : **07.01.2026** from **12.00 Noon** to **28.01.2026** upto **06.00 P.M**
3) Date and time of opening of the e-tender : **30.01.2026** at **11.15 A.M**
4) Detailed Tender Notice available in the website **www.tnphc.com** & **www.tnpolice.gov.in**

DIPR/6846/TENDER/2025
Superintending Engineer,
South Circle, TNPHC Ltd

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Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation
ICOMC Tower, Unit-IX, Satya Nagar, Bhubaneswar-751022

No: 66507 / BMC DT: 26.12.2025
XXXXX-II-SWMPMU-178/2025-26

NOTICE INVITING EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)

C-1919 : On behalf of the Commissioner, Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation (BMC), the Deputy Commissioner (Sanitation), BMC invites Expressions of Interest (EOI) from interested firms for **"Establishment of a 150 TPD Municipal Solid Waste-to-Charcoal Plant in the Jurisdiction of Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation."**. The detailed EOI document can be seen and downloaded from the BMC website http://bmc.gov.in.

For queries, interested parties may contact the office of Deputy Commissioner (Sanitation), Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation at ICOMC Tower at Satya Nagar, Infront of Satya Nagar Kali Temple on Janpath, Unit-IX, Bhubaneswar- 751022, Odisha, India..

1. Schedule of Events:

Availability of EoI document	29.12.2025 (11:00 AM) to till 16.01.2026 (5:00 pm) (Downloadable from website:(http://bmc.gov.in)
Pre-Application Conference	06.01.2026 at 12:00 noon in the Conference Hall at 4th Floor of BMC-ICOMC building, Unit-IX, Bhubaneswar- 751022
Last date & time for receipt of Proposal from intending bidders	16.01.2026, by 05.00 PM (Through Speed / Registered post/ Courier/Hand delivery)
Address/Place of submission of EoI in hard Copy	Office of Dy. Commissioner (Sanitation) Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation ICOMC Tower (5th Floor) at Satya Nagar, Infront of Satya Nagar Kali Temple on Janpath, Unit-IX, Bhubaneswar- 751022, Odisha, India
Date and time of opening of EoI by BMC tender committee	17.01.2026, at 12:00 noon
For further enquiries, please email at:	adc3@bmc.gov.in / dc-sanitation@bmc.gov.in

2.All amendments, Clarifications, time extensions, etc. will be uploaded in the website only interested parties should regularly visit the above website to keep themselves updated.

By Order of the Commissioner, BMC
Sd/- Additional Commissioner, Bhubaneswar Municipal Corporation
OIPR- 13002/11/0283/2526

IN THE COURT OF THE XLII Addl. CITY CIVIL AND SESSIONS JUDGE, BENGALURU AT BENGALURU
(CCH-43) OS No.8598/2025

BETWEEN : SRI. MAHESH GOWDA. B, S/o. Sri. Bore Gowda. C, Aged About 43 Years, Having Permanent Address at No. 426, Parishrama, Tunga Nagar Main Road, Herohalli, Viswaneedam, Bengaluru - 560 091. **: Plaintiff**

AND :

M/S GOOGLE INDIA PRIVATE LIMITED, #03, Old Madras Road, Sadananda Nagar, Bennagana Halli, Bengaluru-16 Represented by its Authorised Officer & Director, and Another

42. JOHN DOE @NEWS TAG KANNADA www.youtube.com/@newstagkannada Bellary, Karnataka.
50. JOHN DOE @ JANANAYAKA APPU TV, www.youtube.com/@jananayakaappu tv2347
53. JOHN DOE @GANINADU NEWS, www.youtube.com/@ganinadudigital
83. JOHN DOE@BP NEWS
84. JOHN DOE@NEWSTAG KANNADA
85. TIMES OF KARNATAKA DIGITAL, Ballary, Rep. By Its Chief Editor.
86. A2Z TV CHANNEL, Bellary, Rep. By its Chief Editor.
87. JANA NAYAKA APPU TV, Bellary, Rep. Chief Editor,
88. **PUBLIC POWER NEWS**, Bellary, Rep. By Chief Editor.
89. JOHN DOE @ PUBLIC TIMES
90. JOHN DOE @ PUBLIC POWER NEWS KS
91. JOHN DOE @ NEWS TODAY9.IN
: DEFENDANTS

NOTICE TO THE DEFENDANT No.42, 50, 53 and 83 to 91 i.e., JOHN DOE BY WAY OF PAPER PUBLICATION

WHEREAS, the Plaintiff have filed the above suit against the Defendants before the City Civil Court, Bengaluru (CCH.No. 43) for perpetual Injunction restraining all of them from publishing any malicious or defamatory statement against the Plaintiff. This Hon'ble Court was passed the order dated 06/12/2025 stating that "Defendants are restrained from indulging or acting in any manner including telecasting/ transmitting/ publishing/ distributing/sharing any material in any permanent/transient/audio format in any print media/ newspaper/ television channels/local cable operated channel/ internet/ website/ radio channel/ social media/digital media/digital media platform propagating either negatively, sarcastically or hypothetically referring to or against the plaintiff or his family members, or making any false malicious and derogatory news concerning/relating to the plaintiff or his family members, by granting temporary injunction prayed". That in the above suit the defendant No.42,50,53 and 83 to 91 being an unknown person who is trying to the plaintiff within the social media has been arrayed John Doe or the identity is unknown, thus, in view of the same, the present paper publication is issued against the John Doe i.e., Defendant No. 42,50,53 and 83 to 91 if such person has any interest in the same, such person on the day, date specified hereto, may appear and contest suit either personally or through an Advocate. If not take notice that, the above. suit will heard and tried against such person ex-parte in your absence take notice that said suit stands posted to **14.01.2025 at 11 am** for your appearance.

Given under my hand and seal of this Court on this 20th day of December month of 2025.

ADVOCATE FOR PLAINTIFFS
SRI. T. SESHAGIRI RAO, Advocate
No.230, II Main, II Cross, Mahalakshmi Layout, Bangalore - 560 086.

BY ORDER OF THE COURT
Sd/- Assistant Registrar
City Civil Court, Bengaluru.

PUBLIC NOTICE

My client, **SRI. VIJAY KIRAN,** S/o. Sri.D.Shankarappa, residing at No.62/3, 8th Main, Malleshwaram, Bengaluru – 560 055 is intending to purchase the immovable property morefully described in the schedule hereunder from **SRI.MARUTHI RAO. C. K,** S/o. Sri.L.C.Krishnoji Rao, residing at No.53, 5th Cross, Chowdeshwarinagar, Laggere, Bengaluru – 560 058.

The said vendor claims that he is the absolute owner in lawful possession and enjoyment of the Schedule Property and that the same is free from all encumbrances, charges, liens, claims, demands, litigation, acquisition proceedings, or interests of any nature whatsoever.

Any person or persons having any right, title, interest, claim, charge, lien, share, or objection of any nature in respect of the Schedule Property are hereby called upon to submit their objections, if any, along with supporting documentary evidence, to the undersigned within **FIFTEEN (15) DAYS** from the date of publication of this notice.

If no objections are received within the stipulated period, it shall be deemed that there are no claims or objections whatsoever in respect of the Schedule Property, and my client shall proceed with the proposed purchase transaction without any further reference.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

ALL THAT piece and parcel of immovable agricultural land bearing **Sy No. 308/3 measuring 00:15 (A/G)** excluding 00:00.04 (A/G) of Kharab land situated at Kalya Village, Kasaba Hobli, Magadi Taluk, Ramanagara District (Bangalore South Dist.), which is bounded on: East by : Land bearing Sy No.308/4; West by: Land bearing Sy No.308/2; North by: Road; South by: Land bearing Sy No.306.

Legal Eyes Advocates & Solicitors
Mr. BABU T C, Advocate,
892, 'Prathama' 8th 'A' Main Road, 3rd Stage, 3rd Block,
Basaveshwaranagar,
Bengaluru - 560079.
Contact: 94801 06891
Date:30.12.2025

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general public that we, **1. Sri. Ashok Kumar T.M.,** S/o late T.N. Muddappa and Putnanjamma alias Chothamma, residing at No. 30/12, 6th Main, Vyalikaval, Malleswaram, Bangalore North, Bangalore- 560 003, **2. Smt. Tharakeshwari T.M.** D/o T.N. Muddappa and Putnanjamma alias Chothamma, W/o Sri. Ravi Kiran M, residing at No. 78, B/7, 3rd Main Road, 6th Cross, Prakash Nagar, Opposite to Raghavendra Temple, Sriramapura, Bangalore-560021, **3. Smt. Kamalamma,** D/o Late H.M. Muddappa and Lingamma, W/o Sri, Chinnashamaiah H.P., residing at No. 217, 5th Main, 2nd Cross, Hebbal, Bangalore North, Bangalore-560024. **4. Smt. Saraswathi H.M.** D/o late H.M. Muddappa and Lingamma, W/o Sri. Aswath T.M, residing at No. 18, 2nd Cross, Sumangali Seva Ashram, Hebbal, Bangalore North, Bangalore-560032 and **5. Smt. Chandramma,** D/o Late H.M. Muddappa and Lingamma, W/o Sri. Rajanna B. residing at No. 3, 8"F Main Road, Vidyaranyapura, Bangalore-560097, had executed a registered General Power of Attorney dated 08.05.2025, registered as Document No. GNR-4-00067-2025-26, Book No.4, dated 09.05.2025, in the office of the Sub-registrar, (Ganganagar) Gandhinagar, Bangalore, in favor of **1. Sri. P. Vamsi Krishna,** S/o late P. P. Rama Krishna Reddy, No. 6-144 1A, Dhanalaxmi Nagar, Avilala, Tirupati Rural, Chittor District, Andhrapradesh-517507, **2. Smt. Ritu Gupta,** D/o Sri. Sharvan Kumar Garg, residing at No. 159/3, HEOO Apartment, Sector 31, Gurgaon, Haryana-122001, **3. Smt. Anjana Channal,** D/o Sri. Venkappa Laxmappa Channal, residing at No. L-1204, Brigade Gateway, Dr. Rajkumar Road, Near World Trade Centre, Malleswaram, Bangalore-560055, **4 Sri. Muthamil Pandian,** S/o Sri. Paulchamy, residing at Flat No. A1 401, Casa Grand Cresondo Ambattur, Athipattu, Tiruvallur, Tamil Nadu-600058, **5. Smt. Mrunalini Balekundri,** D/o Sri. Aravind Darashram Balekundri, residing at 5LF, Babar Palace, Near Bengali Market, Near Todarmal Park, New Delhi-110001, **6. Smt. Chinni Thirveni,** D/o Sri. Venkateshwaralu, residing at No. 27-5-610, Balaji Nagar, Old Gowda Hostel Centre Main Road, Nellore, Andhra Pradesh-524002, **7. Sri. Sanathana Murthy,** S/o B.B. Srikanthaiah, residing at No. 184/B, Guru Nilaya, 3rd Cross, Girinagara, 1st Phase, Bangalore South-560085, **8. Sri. Prem Sagar,** S/o Shankar Reddy, residing at Flat No. 16, Apartment 101, Shubh Enclave, 17th Main, Haralur Road, Opposite to Kasavanahalli Lake, Ambalipura, HSR Layout, Bangalore-560102, **9. Sri. Shreyas Vinupaxi Mamani,** S/o Sri. Vinupaxi Karabasappa Mamani, residing at Bandi Oni, No. 1748, Savadatti, Belgaum, Karnataka-591126, **10. Sri. Golla Nagaraj Kumar,** S/o late G.R. Nagaraj, residing at No. 333/81, 1" Floor, 41st Cross, 1st Main, Near Adigas Hotel, 8th Block, Jayanagar, Banashankari 2nd Stage, Bangalore South, Bangalore-560070.

Notice is hereby given that the said General Power of Attorney is hereby cancelled/ Revoked having been obtained fraudulently and dishonestly and the same never conferred any valid authority upon the said Attorneys and in this regard a Legal Notice dated 16.12.2025 has been issued to all attorneys. That from the date of this notice the said attorneys have no right, title, interest or authority whatsoever to act, represent, sell, mortgage, lease encumber, alienate or otherwise deal with the schedule property in any manner for whatsoever reasons.

SCHEDULED PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the property bearing Survey No. 59, measuring to an extent of 18 acres, situated at Kuduregere Village, Jala Hobli, Bangalore North Taluk, Bangalore Urban Taluk District, and bounded on the **East by:** Land belong to Patil Nanjundappa, **West by:** Government Land and Road, **North by:** Land belong to Bashir Khan, **South by:** Land belong to Bettadalasuru Rudrappa

Y.A. NAGARAJ, Advocate
Office: #1, 2nd Floor, 4th Main,
Kumarapark West Road, Near
Subramanya Swamy Temple
Seshadripuram, Bengaluru-560 020.
Mob: 9845795956
E-mail: advocate.nagaraj@gmail.com

Government of Karnataka
PUBLIC WORKS, DEPARTMENT
Office of the Executive Engineer, Chamarajanagara Division, Chamarajanagara
Phone/Fax: 08226-222027 | e-mail: eecnr@kpwd.gov.in/pwdeechngr@gmail.com

BRIEF TENDER NOTIFICATION
(Through Kppp.karnataka.gov.in portal only)
H(Two Cover System: Section-1-Technical Bid and Section-2-Financial Bid)

Short Term Tender Notification No 25/2025-26 Dated: 26.12.2025

Item rate tenders are invited through Kppp.karnataka.gov.in portal only on behalf of Governer of Karnataka from Eligible registered civil Contractor in KPWD in Standard Bid document KW-4 form The Total no of works is 10, **H/A : 4059-80-051-0-60-132 CM Infrastructure Development Projects - Capital Expenditures Works** Minimum estimated cost is Rs, 150.00 lakhs, maximum estimated cost is Rs, 200.00 lakhs, Further changes in this Notification will be Published in Kppp.karnataka.gov.in Only. Date of events as follows:

1	Date and Time for downloading the tender document from the Kppp.karnataka.gov.in portal	From 29.12.2025 to 08.01.2026 upto 16.00 Hrs.
2	Pre-Bid Meeting Date	02.01.2026 in Division Office Meeting Hall at 11.00 AM
3	downloading the tender document from the Last Date and Time	08.01.2026 Up to 16.00 Hrs.
4	Date & Time for opening of Technical bid	09.01.2026 after 16.30 Hrs.
5	Date & Time for opening of Financial bid	12.01.2026 Morning 11.00 AM

More information can be had from the web site: **https://www.Kppp.karnataka.gov.in** & Any other details required can be obtained from office of the under signed during office hours.

Sd/-
Executive Engineer,
PWD Division,
Chamarajanagar

No: DIPR:CHANAGAR: 604:2025-26

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to inform the general Public that, Bank of Baroda, HSR Layout Branch intends to accept the "Schedule Property" standing in the name of M/s.Vistar Builders and Developers, A partnership firm having its registered as office at No.54, 4th Floor, 17th Cross, 12th Main, HSR Layout, 6th Sector, Bangalore and also at Plot No.242/A, Sy.Nos.145 & 146/2, Muthanallur Village, Sarjapura Hobli, Bangalore, as a security, for the loan / credit facility/ies to be granted in its favour for the Project called "Vistar White Pearl".

In case anyone has got any right / title / interest / claims over the Schedule property, they are advised to approach the Bank within 10 days along with necessary proof to substantiate their claim.

If No response is received within 10 days, it is presumed that, the Schedule property is free of any charge / claim / encumbrance and bank shall proceed with the mortgage.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of **Flat Nos.001, 002, 003, 004, 005, 006, 101, 102, 103, 104, 105, 106, 201, 202, 203, 204, 205, 206, 302, 303, 304, 305, 402, 403, 404, 406, 502, 503, 504, 505, 506, 601, 602, 603, 606, 702, 703, 704 & 705** situated in the **"Western Portion"** of property bearing **Site No.242, Khata No.827** in the "Fortune Cosmos" Layout carved out of the Land bearing **Sy.Nos.145 & 146/2** situated at **Muthanallur Village**, Sarjapura Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore under Muthanallur Grama Panchayath limits, **measuring East to West: On the Northern side: 161 feet; On the Southern Side: 129 feet 2 inches; and North to South: On the Eastern side: 183 feet 5 inches; On the Western Side: 210 feet 4 inches totally measuring 28,564 Sq.ft.**, and bounded as under: East by : Remaining Portion of Site No.242 **West** : By Pathway; **North** : By Site Nos.250, 251 and 12 meters Road; **South** : By 15 Meters Road

Branch Details : Senior Manager,Bank of Baroda, HSR Layout Branch, No.7, 17th Cross, Sector No.7, HSR Layout, Bangalore. 560 102 PH: 9916754447.

Sri.M.Anantha Kumar, Advocate,
No.167, "Mahalakshmi Nivasa"1st Floor,
1st Cross, Kilari Road, Bengaluru-560053. Mob: 9972094729

Canara Bank
ಕೆನರಾ ಬ್ಯಾಂಕ್ केनरा बैंक Canara Bank
सिंडिकेट Syndicate

ASHOKA PILLAR BRANCH
REGIONAL OFFICE, FLOOR, NO.19,
SOUTH END ROAD BASAVANAGUDI,
BENGALURU - 560004

DEMAND NOTICE
SECTION 13(2) TO BORROWER/GUARANTOR/MORTGAGOR

REF: HL/428/0428619002256/DN1/2025-26 DATE: 22-12-2025

Sub: Notice issued under Section 13(2) of the Securitisation & Reconstruction of Financial Assets & Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002

The undersigned being the Authorized Officer of **Canara Bank, Ashoka Pillar Branch** had issued Demand Notice under Section 13(2) of the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Security Interest Act 2002 by Registered Post with Acknowledgment Due (RPAD) to the addresses furnished to the Bank as mentioned below. Since the notice has not been acknowledged returned due to non-availability of addresses at the said addresses / due to evading of service of the notice sent by RPAD, notice could not be served. The contents of the said notice are mentioned herein below.

1. Name and Address of the Borrowers/ Co-Borrowers/Mortgagors/ Guarantors: Mr. C Annamalai S/o Sri R Chinnaswamy, No 2, 3rd Main, 3rd Cross, K M Colony Siddapura, Bengaluru South- 560011. **2) Ms. Kavitha A W/o Annamalai C,** No 4 1 Kempanna Cross, Doddamavalli, Basavanagudi,Bangalore South- 560004. **Alternate Address: Ms. Kavitha A W/o Annamalai C** No 2, 3rd Main, 3rd Cross, K M Colony Siddapura, Bengaluru South- S60011

[Details of the credit facility/ies availed by the Borrower]

Sl. No.	Loan No.	Nature of Loan	Liability with interest as on Date	Rate Of Interest
1	0428619002256	HOUSING LOAN	Rs.3,42,572.92 + further interest from 20.12.2025	11.35%

Total Liability Amount: Rs.3,42,572.92 (Rupees Three lakhs Forty Two thousand Five Hundred Seventy Two Rupees and Ninety Two Paisa onty) dated 20.12.2025 together with further interest and incidental expenses and costs.

NPA Date : 28/09/2025 **Demand Notice Dated : 22-12-2025**

Description of Security assets Immovable Property Details:

Name of Title Holder : Mr. C Annamalai

All the piece and parcel of the Northern Portion of the immovable property bearing Municipal New No. 4/1-1, (BBMP PID No. 61-19-4/1-1). Situated at Papaiah Lane, Doddamavalli, Bangalore- 560004 (BBMP Ward no 61), measuring east to west 13 feet and North to South 35 Feet and B**ounded on the:** East : Milk Vendor Venkatappa's Property, West: A V Nagaraj Property Present Private Property, North: Conservency, South: K Rajendran's Property.

You are here by called upon to pay **Canara Bank,** within a period of 60 days from the date of publication of this notice, the respective amount mentioned here above, failing which **Canara Bank** will take necessary action under the provisions of the said Act, against the secured assets including taking possession of the secured assets of the Borrowers, Guarantors & Mortgagers. The powers available to **Canara** Bank under the Act include (i) power to take possession of the secured assets of the **Borrowers / Guarantors / Mortgagers** including the rights to transfer by way of lease, assignment or sale for realising secured assets and any transfer of secured assets by **Canara Bank** shall vest in the transferee rights in or in relation to, the secured asset transferred as if the transfer has been made by you. In terms of the provisions of section 13(13) of the said Act, you are hereby prohibited from transferring, either by way of sale, lease or otherwise (other than in the ordinary course of your business), any of the secured assets as referred to in the **Demand Notice and also Hypothecated / Mortgaged** to the bank without prior written consent of the Bank. The notice is issued in terms of Section (13)2 ofthe saidAct.

Date: 12-12-2025
Place : Bengaluru
Sd/- Authorised Officer,
Canara Bank

PUBLIC NOTICE

NOTICE is hereby given to the public that we are investigating the right, title, interest, benefits, entitlements of whatsoever nature of the Schedule Property of (1) Mrs. Patalamma, D/o Late DoddaKenchappa, (2) Mr. Srirama, S/o Mr. Muniraju and Late Muniyamma, Grandson of Late DoddaKenchappa, (3) Mr. Muniyappa, S/o Late DoddaKenchappa, (4) Mr. Chikkanna, S/o Late DoddaKenchappa, (5) Mr. Rajanna, S/o Late DoddaKenchappa, (6) Mrs. Rathnamma, S/o Late ChikkaKenchappa, W/o Mr. Muniyappa, (7) Mr. Muniraju, S/o Late ChikkaKenchappa, (8) Mr. Narayanaswamy, S/o Late ChikkaKenchappa, (9) Mrs. Chikkamma, D/o Late ChikkaKenchappa, W/o Mr. Krishnappa, (10) Mrs. Ajinamma, 1st wife of Late Muniyappa, (11) Mrs. Thirumalamma, 2ND wife of Late Muniyappa, (12) Mr. Shashi Kumar.M, S/o Late Muniyappa, (13) Mrs. Chandrakala.M, D/o Late Muniyappa, W/o Mr. Devaraja.V.G and (14) Mrs. Pushpalatha, D/o Late Muniyappa, W/o Mr. Pillappa, all are residing at Gantiganahalli Village, Yelahanka Taluk, Bangalore-560064 **("Owners").** Our Client **("Client")** is desirous of entering in to a sale transaction of the Schedule Property with the Owners who has represented to my client that they are the absolute owners of the Schedule Property with rights of alienation over the same.

ALL person including an individual, a Hindu Undivided Family, banks, financial institutions etc., having any objection, claim, right, title and/or interest in the Schedule Property or any part or portion thereof by way of sale, bequest, succession, family arrangement, grant, possession, lease/sublease, tenancy, development rights, settlement, right of way, lispendens, agreement, development rights, order/Decree/Judgment of Court or any liability or commitment or otherwise or demand of any nature whatsoever are hereby requested to inform the same in writing, supported with the original documents, to the undersigned having his office as mentioned below within a period of 07 (Seven) days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which, the claim/s, if any, of such person/s shall be considered to have been waived and/or abandoned and my clients would be at liberty to proceed with the sale transaction with the Schedule Property.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of immoveable property of land bearing Survey No.78/2 measuring 28 Guntas, situated at Gantiganahalli Village, YelahankaHobli, Yelahanka Taluk, Bangalore District and bounded on: Road; West by: Land belongs to Mr. ChikkaByanna; North by: Land belongs to Ms. Kempamma; South by: Land belongs to Mr. Yedunath and others;

Mr. BhaskarBabu Gowda, Advocate
Baghat Law Chambers, No.100, 1st Floor, Donna Bas Tower,
Railway Parallel Road, Kumara Park West, Bangalore-560020.
Mob: 8880621168

GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF CONSTRUCTION ENGINEER, SOUTHERN (R&B) CIRCLE, BERHAMPUR
Phone : 0680-2281582, e-mail : ccescbam@gmail.com
INVITATIONS FOR BIDS (IFB) [e-Procurement]
Bid Identification No. CCE, S.C (R&B)-BAM-11/2025-26
B-908 **No. 4361 // Dated : 24.12.2025**

1) The **Chief Construction Engineer, Southern (R&B) Circle, Berhampur** on behalf of Governor of Odisha invites **percentage rate bid** in double cover system in **ONLINE MODE** from eligible contractors for construction of **Building works** as detailed in the table below.
2) Nature of work : Building Works
3) No. of work : 02 Nos.
4) Tender Cost : Rs.10,000/- (online)
5) Class of Contractor : "B" Class/ "A" Class
6) Availability of Bid document in the Website : 31.12.2025 10.00 AM to 15.01.2026 5.30 PM
7) Date of Opening of Bid : 16.01.2026 at 11.30 A.M.
8) The Bidders have to participate in ONLINE bidding only. Further details can be seen from the website https://tendersodisha.gov.in.
9) Any addendum / corrigendum / cancellation of tender can also be seen in the said website only.

Sd/- (Damodar Kaibartta)
Chief Construction Engineer,
Southern (R&B) Circle, Berhampur

OIPR-34103/11/0038/2526

Carlsen slams table after losing to Erigaisi

World No.1 Magnus Carlsen was once again at the centre of attention at the FIDE World Blitz Championships 2025 in Doha for slamming the table in frustration after losing to Arjun Erigaisi. It was not the first time for Carlsen as he had reacted in a similar manner after losing to reigning world champion D Gukesh during the Norway Chess tournament.

Shooting excellence, boxing promise & stagnant service

Indian shooters had smooth sailing through the course of the season, stepping up in all key international tournaments and returning with significant medals. After a relatively slow start due to off-ring matters, women boxers also had some telling moments inside the squared circle while badminton players' toil continued with some of the top guns unable to play to their potential due to various reasons. A look at the contrasting journeys of athletes from three key sports and what lies ahead...

Finish Line 2025

ANMOL GURUNG @ Chennai

BOXING, badminton and shooting are three key disciplines in the Indian sporting circuit that usually return with rich rewards from almost all international competitions including World Championships and Olympics. The athletes from these events have made giant strides over the years. And that reflects on their performance at the Olympics, considered the pinnacle of sports. Those disciplines are responsible in bringing a sizeable chunk of medals (12 out of 47 medals) that the country has won in the history of Summer Games. That number is striking to say the least. And that has generally been the theme in other noteworthy events across the globe.

These athletes, over the years, have added to their reputation. Thanks to their contribution to the Indian sporting ecosystem, they have attained a good level of influence. Cricketers, without a doubt, take the chunk of the pie in terms of perks and influence. But sportspersons from these three fields have also been gradually attaining prominence. That has meant more money has exchanged hands with the government and private firms heavily investing in these games. PV Sindhu, Saina Nehwal (before Sindhu), Manu Bhaker, MC Mary Kom, Lovlina Borgohain, Vijender Singh are some of the influential names that have left a strong imprint on the Indian sporting circuit.

The rise in popularity also follows close scrutiny. They have grown to become a routine fixture for sports fans across the country. The level of expectations have also soared simultaneously.

As the dust settled after the 2024 Paris Games, each discipline had its own goals for the new year. For shooting, which fetched three medals during the Paris Games, it was all about consolidating and maintaining rhythm ahead of bigger targets. But for boxing and badminton, who had endured a forgetful Summer in Paris, it was all about soul-searching for the athletes and regaining strength. While shooters continued to thrive and produce some eye-catching performances, badminton continued to remain in the shadows. Boxing, on the other hand, had its share of highlights and lowlights.

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On the backdrop of Olympic high, Indian shooters had entered the season brimming with plenty of belief. "This is the first year in the new Olympic cycle. This time we have a very strong bench strength. It is a very interesting situation right now. We have to maintain it for the next three, four years now," India rifle head coach Deepali Deshpande had declared before the year set in motion.

The primary objective was to hand exposure to all the top level shooters in the national setup. The NRAI policy was framed in such a way that those objectives are met. As the season got underway with the South American leg, the Indian shooters started where they had left 2024, finishing second and third in the overall medals tally at Buenos Aires and Lima, respectively. Suruchi Singh was the latest talent to announce herself to the world as she captured three back-to-back gold medals in the women's 10m air pistol category. So did pistol shooter Samrat Rana, who became a world champion in his first shot at the senior World Championships in Cairo, Egypt. Rifle shooter Elavenil Valarivan, meanwhile, was also in full flow all along as she gunned down three individual medals, including a bronze at the World Championships. The fact that India captured eight medals in Olympic disciplines in the said World Championships was unprecedented.

So it was largely smooth sailing all along. It was a case of well-thought planning (all the stakeholders), backed by proper execution.

But the process is still on and the coaches and shooters know this is just the beginning of a long road ahead. That is the mental make-up that has helped the team evolve. It's visible that national rifle head coach Deepali Deshpande, one of the big helping hands in rifle shooting, is very much at peace with the overall script. She is focussed on the process and it's clear that there's still plenty of room for the shooters to elevate their game.

"Yes, we did very well this year. But if you see the performance of the rifle shooters towards the end, it should have been better. But I didn't expect it to be better, because it was not our goal this year. The World Championships was just like testing waters," Deepali said, while trying to breakdown this year's output, especially during the World Championships

"I see from an insiders' perspective and I know where we stand. It could have been better. Of course, you want to be like China, where you send team A or team B, anybody, anywhere and they win. We are somewhere there. Not exactly there, but close. We do win...When rifle shooters win, pistol shooters might not have the same performance and vice versa. At the end of day, we are top-two or top three in the medals tally. That's always there. I'm not really worried about it since it was a training year. Until you get the exact result that you wanted, there will be specks of doubt here and there," she added.

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As many as six Indian boxers had entered the 2024 Paris Games. With the women (four) outnumbering the men (two) for the first time, the spotlight was predominantly on pugilists like Nikhat Zareen and Lovlina Borgohain, who was eyeing a second straight Olympic medal. Nikhat, in the build-up to the Games, had ticked all the right boxes and was a genuine prospect to climb the podium. And so was the latter given her consistency and her pursuit of excellence. However, Paris eventually turned out to be a disaster with both falling short of their goals. Likewise, the rest had suffered similar fate. It was time for the boxers and the stakeholders involved in the sport to regroup and find fresh strategies before entering a new cycle. However, with Boxing Federation of India elections facing multiple delays and court proceedings, the boxers were forced to take the back seat. The issues surrounding the said elections, which was finally conducted in August, meant there was some level of uncertainty, even though some of the elite boxers were taking part at international competitions. But it was far from an ideal scenario.

Nikhat and Lovlina, the mainstays, were largely inactive before they finally made their comeback at the World Championships which was staged at Liverpool in September. Given their lack of activity, this time they had entered the event with plenty of question marks. As the event commenced, Lovlina, unable to shake off ring rust, was one of the first big names to bow out. Nikhat, chasing her third straight gold, also stood helpless as she was shown the exit door in the quarterfinal stage. The men boxers, with plenty of first-timers, were also getting to learn the harsh reality at the big stage. But four women stood tall. Jaismine Lamboria and Meenakshi Hooda went on to author a fairytale for themselves by capturing gold while Nupur Sheoran and Pooja Rani returned with a silver and bronze medal, respectively. It was a cathartic experience for the boxing contingent. Jaismine, in particular, demonstrated that she made significant strides this season.

And the pugilists signed off the season by winning medals across 20 categories (with nine claiming gold) during the World Cup finals. However, it must be noted that several top-ranked boxers had given the event a miss since this was the last tournament of the season.

With familiar face Santiago Nieva, recently appointed as women's head coach by BFI, expected to arrive in India by January, the likes of Jaismine and Meenakshi will be hoping to replicate this year's performance in 2026. For Nikhat and Lovlina, it will be a case of regaining their mojo and entering in good shape before key meets like Asian Championships, CWG and Asiad.

*****

The badminton players from the country had toiled last year with some of the elite players, mainly due to recurring injuries, failing to find any sort of momentum. The young faces had struggled to adapt at the highest level which is not a very healthy sign. The Paris Games was the lowest point in the last decade as the shuttlers returned empty-handed. Since Saina's historic bronze at the 2012 London Games, India, through PV Sindhu, had fetched two medals in the following editions in Rio and Tokyo. Lakshya Sen was within sight to maintain that streak before narrowly missing out in bronze medal playoffs. Even the doubles partnership of Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty, who had entered Games in a healthy state, had flattered to deceive, leaving the Indian think-tank with plenty to mull. If 2024 seemed like a trough, the show in 2025 was not at their best levels. If the top shuttlers failed to impress, the ones who were supposed to fill in the shoes of the seniors seemed raw and lack the finesse. The Badminton Association of India (BAI), who has been looking to push youngsters and build a strong pool of players at the senior level, knew they needed somebody to add that spark. And they were hopeful that the likes of Sindhu and HS Prannoy, the go-to players in the past, could regain their touch going into the new season. But the problems persisted. Barring Lakshya Sen, none of the old-timers came close to seriously challenging for a title in the singles department. The up-and-coming shuttlers, who have been in the picture for the last few years or so, were also largely anonymous. Ayush Shetty, who upset some top-ranked shuttlers, was perhaps one of the few bright spots. Unnati Hooda, 18, is another who produced a few good wins here and there to offer little hope going ahead. The fact that she competed in as many as 17 tournaments on the BWF World Tour is a step in the right direction as she looks to attain more high-level experience.

While rest of the young faces looking to cement their names at the elite circuit were mostly subdued. Though the BAI is banking heavily on the younger shuttlers to find rhythm, this year did not lived up to its expectations. Natural progression seemed to have halted. Having said that, some of the junior shuttlers, led by Tanvi Sharma, did show some promise by capturing a historic team bronze during the 2025 BWF World Junior Championships. But they are still at a developmental phase and could take some years before they evolve to take be competitive at the elite level.

With India set to host the World Championships in 2026, the shuttlers will have to turn over a new leaf if they intend to be among challengers by the time it arrives.

EXPRESS READ

Women's HIL: Tigers defeat Soorma HC

RANCHI: Shrachi Bengal Tigers registered a 1-0 victory over JSW Soorma Hockey Club in Women's Hero Hockey India League (HIL) here. Agustina Gorzelany's (11') powerful drag flick gave the Tigers the lead in the first quarter and despite Soorma HC's dominant display, they were unable to breach the Tigers' stellar defence for the rest of the game.

Neeru takes trap gold in nat'l shooting

NEW DELHI: Asian Championships gold medallist Neeru Dhanda braved chilly weather to deliver a composed performance on her way to clinching the women's trap gold medal in the National Shooting Championship at the Karni Singh Range. The 25-year-old shooter finished with 41 hits in the final. She held off a strong challenge from Delhi's Kirti Gupta.

ICC rates Ashes MCG pitch unsatisfactory

DUBAI: The ICC on Monday rated the pitch used in Melbourne for the fourth Ashes Test between England and Australia, which ended in two days, as unsatisfactory and handed the venue one demerit point after it was deemed to be "too much in favour of the bowlers" in match referee Jeff Crowe's assessment report.

Can India clean sweep Sri Lanka?

The hosts have a chance to complete a 5-0 whitewash on Tuesday. A look..

FIELDING A CONCERN

Although India have ticked all the boxes with both bat and ball, their fielding has been below satisfactory. In the previous match, India dropped two catches and a stumping opportunity. Harmanpreet Kaur and Co are expected to iron that out in the final match of the series.

ANOTHER RUN FEST?

After three low-scoring affairs, the fourth T20I was a run fest. With dew in Thiruvananthapuram not favouring bowlers, another such high-scoring match may well be on the cards. Even more so if India were to bat first as one could see on Sunday with Smriti Mandhana finally getting a big score.

ISLANDERS NEED BIG PERFORMANCE

All eyes were on Chamari Athapaththu in the first three matches, as her lean patch seemingly hurt her side. Now that she has broken that rut with a 37-ball 52, it is time that her teammates turn-up to give India a tough fight in an otherwise lost cause. They will need a win to go back home with a smile.

INDIA VS SRI LANKA, THIRUVANANTHAPURAM | 7PM LIVE ON STAR SPORTS AND JIOHOTSTAR

Algeria advance to last 16, Ivory Coast held

AGENCIES @ Rabat

ALGERIA on Sunday became the third country after Egypt and Nigeria to qualify for the knockout stage of the Africa Cup of Nations by edging Burkina Faso 1-0 in Rabat through a Riyad Mahrez penalty.

Defending champions Ivory Coast failed to join the trio after drawing 1-1 with Cameroon in a lively Marrakesh showdown.

Elsewhere, Mozambique ended a 39-wait for a first AFCON victory by beating Gabon 3-2 while Sudan got back into contention for a last-16 slot by beating Equatorial Guinea 1-0 in Casablanca.

Captain Mahrez converted from the spot midway through the first half and Algeria then held on to win a bruising contest against a determined Burkinabe outfit.

The penalty that decided the game was awarded when Manchester City's Rayan Ait-Nouri was bundled over. Mahrez made no mistake with his 23rd-minute kick as he followed his brace in the opening 3-0 defeat of Sudan to take his tally at this AFCON to three goals.

The former Leicester City and Manchester City winger now has nine goals at the tournament, an Algerian record.

VIJAY HAZARE TROPHY

Rishabh falters but Delhi register third consecutive win

ENS/AGENCIES

OPENER Priyansh Arya and Tejasvi Dahiya made aggressive fifties as Delhi rose above skipper Rishabh Pant's ordinary outing to beat Saurashtra by three wickets in a Group D match of the Vijay Hazare Trophy in Bengaluru on Monday.

Chasing 321, Arya (78, 45 balls) and Tejasvi (53, 51b) did the heavy lifting for a Virat Kohli-less Delhi as they romped home in 48.5 overs losing seven wickets at Alur 2 grounds. Kohli had played a stellar role in Delhi's win in the first two matches, scoring a hundred and fifty.

The star batter is set to rejoin the team on January 6 for the match against Railways at the BCCI Centre of Excellence. Pant could not make a heavy contribution, getting out for a 26-ball 22. The left-hander gave a catch to Jay Gohil off Chirag Jani. Saurashtra made a challenging 320 for seven in 50 overs, courtesy a 115 (104b) by opener Vishvarajsinh Jadeja and an unbeaten 65-ball 95 by Ruchit Ahir.

Jurel slams century

RAJKOT: Young wicketkeeper-batter Dhruv Jurel underlined his 50-over credentials ahead of the selection of the Indian team for the three-match ODI series against New Zealand next month by smacking a brilliant unbeaten century while big-hitter Rinku Singh gave another commanding performance as Uttar Pradesh secured a facile 54-run win against Baroda.

BRIEF SCORES (SELECT)

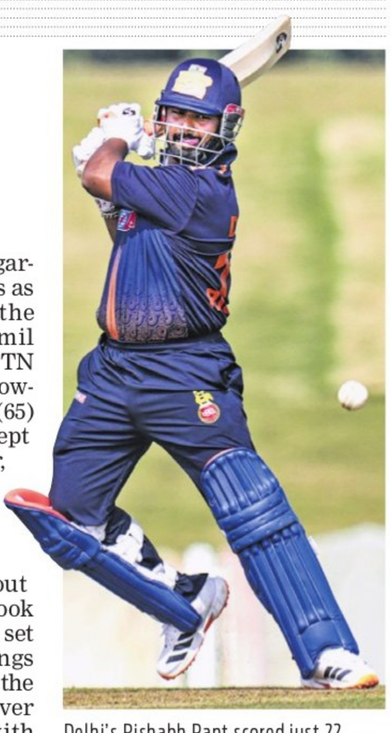
Saurashtra: 320/7 in 50 ovs (Jadeja 115, Ahit 95 n.o; Saini 3/41) lost to Delhi 321/7 in 48.5 ovs (Arya 78, Dahiya 53, Tyagi 49, Saini 34 n.o; Jani 2/51); Andhra: 221 all out in 49.2 ovs (Prasad 66, Saurabh 47; Samantray 3/36, Poddar 3/36) lost to Odisha 223/4 in 43.4 ovs (Poddar 89, Munda 91; Raju 2/49); UP 369/7 in 50 ovs (Goswami 51, Jurel 160 n.o, Singh 63; Limbani 4/74) bt Baroda 315 all out in 50 ovs (Rawat 60, Krunal 82; Zeeshan 3/53, Rizvi 2/43); Hyderabad 310 for 8 in 50 ovs (Rahul 79, Abhirath 54, Reddy 53; Abdul 3/71) lost to Assam 314/6 in 49.3 ovs (Dihingia 91, Roy 112, Das 54; Milind 3/68); Madhya Pradesh 214 all out in 46.1 ovs (Mantri 93; Ankit 4/38) bt Kerala 167 all out in 40.1 ovs (Sharafuddeen 42; Sharma 3/16); TN 288 in 49.5 ovs (Jagadeesan 65, Pradosh 57; Abhilash 4/57) lost to Karnataka 293/6 in 47.1 ovs (Mayank 58, Shrijith 77).

Jurel struck a blazing 160 not out off 101 deliveries as UP scored a mammoth 369/7 and then dismissed the rivals for 315 on the last ball to earn four points and take their tally to 12 after three rounds. Jurel, who came in following the departure of opener and previous game's centurion Aryan Juyal (26), struck 15 boundaries and eight maximums, shared a 131-run partnership for the fourth wicket with Rinku (63 off 67 balls). Baroda openers Shashwat Rawat (60) and Shivalik Sharma (30) did start the chase in earnest but losing Jitesh Sharma and Priyanshu Moliya in quick succession impeded their progress, with Sameer Rizvi (2/43) and spinner Sameer Rizvi (3/53) causing havoc.

Shrijith, Mayank shine

AHMEDABAD: Mayank Agarwal and K Shrijith hit fifties as Karnataka chased down the 289-run target set by Tamil Nadu. Put into bat first, TN had lost SR Athish in the powerplay but N Jagadeesan (65) and Pradosh Ranjan Paul kept the innings going. However, neither could get to a big score with Karnataka taking wickets are regular intervals.

In the end, TN were all out for 288 as Abhilash Shetty took 4/57. In the chase, Agarwal set the tone and held the innings together but once he fell in the 27th over, Shrijith took over and got his team home with four wickets in hand.



Delhi's Rishabh Pant scored just 22 runs off 26 balls against Saurashtra

Alcohol intake, particularly at higher frequency or greater quantity, is associated with elevated risk for multiple cancers, according to a review published online in Cancer Epidemiology

DIGITAL OVERLOAD

Avoid the screen, print offers robust cognitive development

UNNIKRISHNAN S @T'Puram

ONCE cherished as a sensory ritual, the rustle of pages, the smell of paper, and the quiet of libraries, reading has rapidly transformed in the digital era. In children today, screens have replaced books as the default gateway to stories and information. The Covid-19 pandemic accelerated this global shift, embedding digital reading deeply into education and daily life.

But as devices load information faster than ever, something vital is being lost. Parents, educators, and researchers now ask – is print or screen reading superior for long-term cognitive health? Evidence increasingly points to print, particularly for children, where the tangible experience of a book delivers measurable advantages that digital reading cannot replicate.

Digital overload

The experience of Aarav, a nine-year-old, illustrates the potential cognitive pitfalls of excessive screen time, a reality that became exponentially common during the pandemic years. Aarav spent three to four hours daily immersed in digital content, consuming e-books, playing fast-paced video games, and watching educational videos. While his parents initially believed this content was enriching, troubling patterns soon emerged – a reduced attention span, irritability when the device was removed, difficulty expressing ideas in writing, sleep disturbances, poor retention of school concepts, and increasing social withdrawal. His teacher observed that Aarav was bright but seemed to be "mentally jumping from one thing to another".

This individual case reflects a wider trend observed during 2020 and 2021, when lockdowns forced education and social interaction onto digital platforms. Research supported by the National Institutes of Health and published in journals such as Pediatrics confirmed that elevated levels of screen time persisted well into 2021 and 2022, long after restrictions were lifted. For many children, like Aarav, the boundary between essential learning and recreational screen time had blurred, leading to problems of focus and fatigue noted by educators worldwide.

The intervention for Aarav was deliberately analogue – replacing screen time with physical books, cardboard puzzles, and board games. This shift reflects a growing professional consensus that the physical modality of reading is key to robust cognitive development.

Print's superiority

Experts agree that while reading in any form stimulates cognitive function, print offers a depth of engagement that screens often fail to match. Dr Jamila K Warrier, consultant psychologist, educational therapist, and coordinator at KIMS HEALTH, Thiruvananthapuram, explains that good cognitive health involves "the ability to focus attention, think clearly, learn efficiently, remember easily, and process information for effective decision-making." She emphasises that "multiple studies suggest that print reading offers superior to screen reading for cognitive benefits."

Dr Warrier highlights how physical books provide multisensory stimulation that enriches the reading experience. The visual input of words combines with the tactile act of holding the book, judging its thickness, and turning pages, which "contributes to a sense of completion of pages which in turn aids in summarising content." She adds, "A significant advantage of physical books is their ability to enhance visuospatial memory. The photographic memory of pages is of great use for children in content retrieval." This deeper engagement ensures that information processing is "much deeper in print reading than in screen reading".

The superiority of print stems from how it anchors information in the brain, a process screens often disrupt. Dr Na'eem Sadiq, medical director at Plexus Neuro Centre, argues that the habit of reading in print "enhances memory and cognitive health by engaging our senses in ways digital devices cannot match".

Explaining the physiological mechanism, he says, "When you read a book, turn pages, underline key passages, or fold corners, your brain taps into spatial and tactile memory, creating strong links in the hippocampus, the seat of long-term recall." These physical interactions act as anchors that help readers remember complex details, with studies showing measurable improvements in retention.

Screen-reading risks

In contrast, digital reading is often linked to a more superficial style of engagement. Dr Warrier cautions that screen reading is "often associated with faster reading, a tendency to skim through the material leading to shallow information processing". The digital environment's high risk of distraction, notifications, and unnecessary browsing compounds the problem. "Cognitive overload is more common with screen reading and can contribute to faster burnouts," she adds. This tendency to favour speed over deep understanding ultimately compromises higher-order information processing.

Dr Sadiq concurs, detailing the biological toll of digital devices. Screens "bombard the brain with blue light, flicker, and endless distractions such as notifications and hyperlinks," which fragment attention, "encourage shallow processing, and weaken prefrontal cortex function". This can lead to "brain fog and poorer episodic memory". His clinical observations suggest that heavy screen users, particularly younger individuals, "struggle more with connecting ideas or recalling narratives, mirroring early signs of cognitive decline seen in older individuals".

For lasting cognitive health, the experts' advice is clear – prioritise print. As Dr Sadiq summarises, reading from print "builds resilient neural pathways, protecting against digital overload and fostering clearer thinking," nurturing the mind's core strength — memory that endures.

MYTHS BUSTERS

Myth: Digital reading builds the same memory connections as print
Fact: Print offers spatial cues (like remembering where text sits on a page) that strengthen recall. Digital scrolling often loses this anchor

Myth: Digital reading is more convenient, so print is outdated
Fact: Convenience doesn't equal superiority. Print books don't need batteries, updates, or internet access — they're always ready to read

Myth: Digital reading is healthier for the eyes
Fact: Extended screen time can cause eye strain and sleep disruption due to blue light. Print avoids these issues entirely

Myth: Screens are just as good for focus as paper
Fact: Research shows print reduces distractions. With no notifications or hyperlinks, readers often concentrate better and engage more deeply

MAKE THE RIGHT CHOICE

SCREEN READING: COGNITIVE RISKS	PRINT READING: COGNITIVE BENEFITS
Leads to brain fog and poorer episodic memory	Engages multiple senses – sight, touch, smell and movement of turning pages
Heavy use linked to difficulty connecting ideas and early signs of cognitive decline	Creates stronger visuospatial and photographic memory for content retrieval
Causes cognitive overload and faster burnout	Encourages deeper information processing and comprehension
Blue light and flicker weaken prefrontal cortex function	Builds resilient neural pathways in the hippocampus for long-term recall
Encourages faster reading and skimming, leading to shallow processing	Improves retention by up to 20% compared to screen skimming
	Provides a sense of progress and completion that aids summarisation

ILLUSTRATION: MANDAR PARDIKAR

CASE STUDY: AARAV (AGE 9)

1. Spent 3–4 hours daily on a tablet with e-books, games, and videos
2. Developed reduced attention span, irritability, poor retention, and social withdrawal
3. Teacher noted he was "mentally jumping from one thing to another"
4. **Intervention**: Replaced screens with physical books, cardboard puzzles, and board games
5. **Result:** improved focus, better retention, and healthier engagement

SCREEN: MENTAL HEALTH AT RISK

- Prolonged exposure can lead to various psychological issues, including anxiety, depression, and low self-esteem
- Constant comparison to curated online personas often increases feelings of inadequacy and isolation
- The addictive nature can disrupt sleep patterns and reduce face-to-face interactions
- As young individuals navigate their growing years, the pressures and expectations set by social media can significantly shape their mental health landscape
- There is also the challenge, where they get comfortable with their virtual or online social connections and pull away from making offline connections

Brain rot impacts learning, memory

- Instant gratification from online content can gradually cause individuals to abandon daily routines, withdraw from in-person social interactions, and struggle with activities that require sustained mental effort
- Doctors say children affected by brain rot tend to exhibit symptoms such as restlessness, inattention, emotional outbursts, and a decline in academic performance
- It was named the 2024 word of the year by Oxford, which stated that the term increased in usage frequency by **230%** between 2023 and 2024
- This triggers the release of dopamine in the brain's reward pathway, which impacts learning, memory, mood, motivation, and overall mental well-being

Brain rot is the deterioration of a person's mental or intellectual state as a result of mindless scrolling and consuming excessive meaningless online content

A significant advantage of physical books is their ability to enhance visuospatial memory. The photographic memory of pages is of great use for children in content retrieval Dr Jamila K Warrier

HIGHER TAXATION ON ULTRA PROCESSED FOODS SHOULD BE INTRODUCED, SAYS DOC

ULTRA processed foods (UPFs) like energy drinks, sweetened beverages, noodles, biscuits, chips, cereals, cakes, pastries, pizzas, burgers, baby food formulas, etc are associated with an increased risk of multiple chronic diseases, says **Dr Arun Gupta**, convenor of Nutrition Advocacy for Public Interest (NAPi), a think tank on nutrition, and former member, PM's Council on India's Nutrition Challenges. In an interview with **Kavita Bajeli-Datt**, the co-author of the Lancet series says India needs to move fast on UPF definition and regulation by putting it on a high priority for national health issues. Edited excerpts:

● What exactly are UPFs?
Ultra processed foods (UPFs) are commercial food products, industrial formulations, created largely from substances extracted from real foods such as starch, oils and protein isolates, and combined with cosmetic additives such as colours, flavours, sweeteners and emulsifiers. These cannot be cooked at home. These are aggressively marketed to displace real foods.

● How is ultra-processing different from traditional food processing?
Traditional processing includes drying, freezing, boiling, fermenting, milling or pasteurisation. It enhances safety, shelf life and keeps the food matrix intact, you can see real food. Ultra-processing breaks down the food matrix, removes fibre, chemically or mechanically alters its components and then re-assembles them with additives, colours, flavours and emulsifiers. This is done to enable trading and profitability, and these are engineered to be addictive leading to over consumption. The distinction is essential for policymakers, all processing is not the problem; ultra-processing is.

● What are the findings of the Lancet series on UPFs?
There are three key findings. One, evidence shows UPFs are addictive in nature and displace long-established dietary patterns, worsen diet quality and are associated with an increased risk of multiple chronic diseases. Consumption of UPFs is shaped by a food environment of aggressive advertisements projecting these as healthy or real foods. Two, improving diets cannot rely on consumer behaviour change alone, it requires coordinated policies across food systems that legislate reductions in UPF production, marketing, and consumption. Three, the largest barrier to implementing effective policies to reduce UPF consumption is the food industry and its allies. Only a coordinated government response can combat this power.

● How bad is UPF for our health?
India faces a major public health crisis as one in four adults are obese and one in 10 is diabetic. High exposure to the ultra-processed dietary pattern is associated with a greater risk of 12 outcomes – overweight or obesity, abdominal obesity, type-2 diabetes, hypertension, dyslipidemia, cardiovascular disease or mortality, coronary heart disease or mortality, cerebrovascular disease or mortality, kidney disease, Crohn's disease, depression, and all-cause mortality. A systematic review including 37 prospective studies reported that chronic disease outcomes remained statistically significant after adjusting for diet quality parameters.

● What does India need to do to address growing consumption of UPFs, especially by young people?
India needs to move fast on UPF definition and regulation by putting it on a high priority for national health issues. Schools and public places should be made UPF free. Mandatory front-of-pack nutrition labelling warning labels and ban on their advertisements can cut down exposure of children and youth. In addition, higher taxation on UPF should be introduced to collect revenue and make real healthy foods available.

INTERVIEW
DR ARUN GUPTA

UPF'S IMPACT ON HEALTH

High exposure to the ultra-processed dietary pattern is associated with a greater risk of obesity, abdominal obesity, type-2 diabetes, hypertension, dyslipidemia, cardiovascular disease or mortality, coronary heart disease or mortality, cerebrovascular disease or mortality, kidney disease, Crohn's disease, depression, and all-cause mortality

NEWS CAPSULE

How dogs help develop mental health in humans

Living with dogs helps increase microbes in human bodies that are associated with mental health, researchers reported in iScience. The same team of researchers had found in previous studies that people who grow up with dog from a young age and continue to have dogs later in life score higher on measures of companionship and social support. Other studies have shown that dog owners have differences in the populations of beneficial microscopic organisms that live in their intestines – the so-called gut microbiome – compared to non-dog owners. In the new study, the researchers analysed oral microbiome samples collected from 13-year-olds with and without dogs at home. They found similar species diversity and richness between the two groups. But the microbiome composition showed differences, suggesting that owning a dog shifted the abundances of specific oral bacteria. When the researchers treated laboratory mice with microbiota from dog-owning teens to see whether and how it affected their social behavior, they found mice with the dog-owning microbiome spent more time sniffing their cage mates and showed more "prosocial behavior." "The most interesting finding from this study is that bacteria promoting prosociality, or empathy, were discovered in the microbiomes of adolescent children who keep dogs," study leader Takefumi Kikusui of Azabu University in Japan said in a statement. The authors of the studies say that while more research is needed, the results suggest that a family dog can change the microbiome in ways that support mental health, empathy, and prosocial behaviour.

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30•12•2025
TUESDAY

DAY'S DIARY

USSR established

On this day in 1922, in post-revolutionary Russia, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics was established.

RIGHT OF SECESSION

The Lenin-Trotsky Constitution of 1924 enshrined the union of sovereign nations with equal rights. It granted to the SSRs the right of secession as well as allowing new Socialist Republics to join the Union.

SOVEREIGN STRUCTURE

The organisation of the USSR continued without any structural changes from 1956 to 1990. The Soviet federal State comprised 15 federal entities, the SSRs.

DECLINE

By December 1991, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics had virtually ceased to exist, and the future of its territories and peoples was uncertain.

Check out events in and around ooru!

PG 2

ONE FOR THE BOOKS

Century-old food chain Mavalli Tiffin Rooms (MTR) marked the milestone with the release of *The MTR Story: A Labour of Love*, replete with oral menus and walkthrough kitchens.

As the classic musical drama *The Sound of Music* turned 60 this year, Bengaluru's theatre veterans walked down memory lane, reminiscing what the film meant to their generation & how it echoes to this day.

After an 18-year-long wait, the Royal Challengers Bengaluru, led by Virat Kohli, won the Indian Premier League. The city rejoiced as the team brought home the cup, but the evening ended in tragedy with a stampede at the stadium which took 11 lives.

The India women's cricket team clinched their first-ever ICC World Cup title. *CE* went behind the scenes and explored how captain Harmanpreet Kaur and number two Smriti Mandhana marked the big win with a tattoo.

Game of Thrones star Nikolaj Coster-Waldau was spotted enjoying idli-dosae at The Rameshwaram Cafe.

Heart Lamp, a collection of short stories by Banu Mushtaq and translated by Deepa Bhasthi, became the first Kannada book to win the International Booker Prize.

A 360° TURN

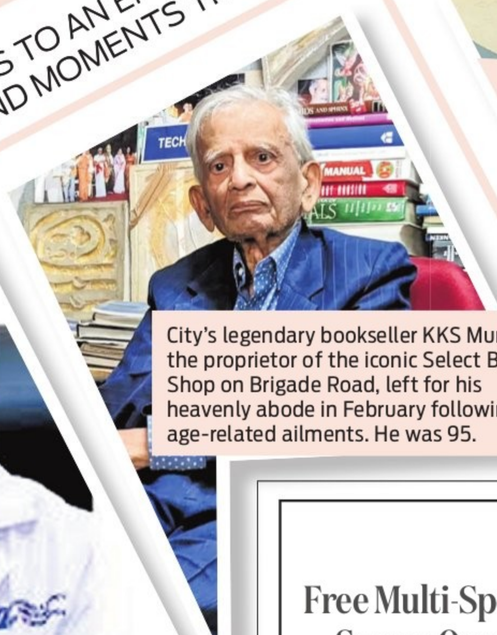
REAR VIEW 2025

AS 2025 COMES TO AN END, CE TAKES A LOOK AT THE MILESTONES, MEMORIES AND MOMENTS THAT DEFINED THE YEAR THAT WAS

SURPRISE, SURPRISE!

Singer Ed Sheeran tried surprising crowds with an impromptu Church Street performance, only to be shooed away by the police.

TV host Conan O'Brien shared glimpses of his Bengaluru walkabouts, including Indiranagar and the Big Banyan Tree.

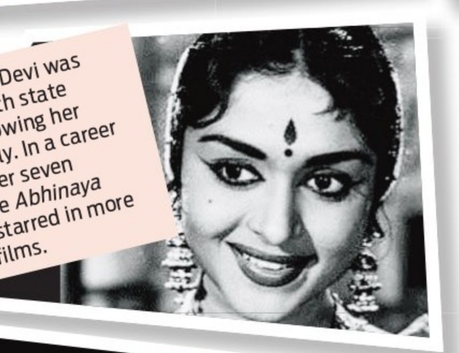


City's legendary bookseller KKS Murthy, the proprietor of the iconic Select Book Shop on Brigade Road, left for his heavenly abode in February following age-related ailments. He was 95.

Noted orthopaedic surgeon and jazz musician Dr Thomas Chandy passed away in April. The doctor in his 70s was known for playing soft jazz during surgeries to calm his patients. A trained vocalist, he led the 17-year-old band The Jazz and Rock Revival.

Matcha, the Japanese green tea became a trendy drink with Bengalureans enjoying it in its traditional form, as lattes and fusions, as well as making it at home.

IN FOND MEMORY

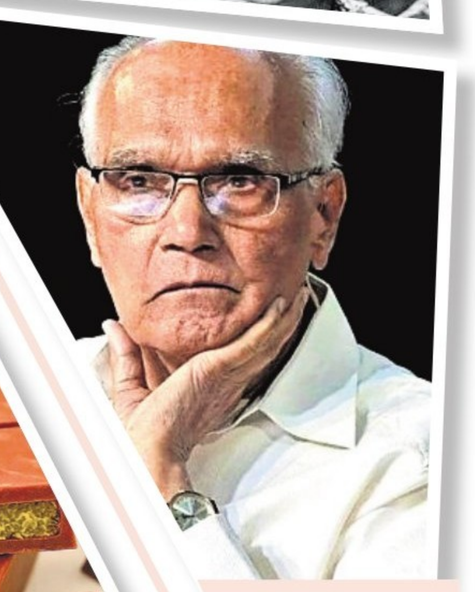


Actor B Saroja Devi was laid to rest with state honours, following her passing in July. In a career spanning over seven decades, the *Abhinaya Saraswati* starred in more than 200 films.

Labubu, a 'cute and creepy' plush toy took the world by storm, charming collectors and celebrities alike.

VIRAL TRENDS

Dubai chocolate, a style of chocolate bar filled with kadayif (shredded filo pastry), pistachio cream and tahini, took over social media, with videos of the trendy treat racking up millions of views.



The literary world mourned Padma Bhushan awardee SL Bhyrappa's passing in Sept. He was known for exploring themes of caste, power and philosophy.

Studio Ghibli-styled AI-generated images took social media by storm around April. While many netizens shared the AI-generated images, seeing it as a mere trend, another set of netizens criticised it, terming it an alarming attack on art.

Faux wedding events that featured fun elements of Indian weddings without the marriage pressure and judgment gained popularity among Gen Z Bengalureans.

Pickleball grew popular in the city, inspiring new courts not just in sports centres, but also in gated communities and apartments.

Compiled by: Akhila P

NEWS NUGGETS

Free Multi-Specialty Health Camp Serves Over 1,000 in Mandya

A free multi-specialty health camp benefiting more than 1,000 people was successfully organised by Favorich Group and Rotary Bangalore Mahalakshmi Central (District 3192) at Favorich Mega Food Park in KR Pet, Mandya district, on December 13, 2025.

Held in association with Bharath Hospital - Institute of Oncology, ASG Eye Hospital, RRCA - Rotary Blood Centre Arena and Dentaderm, the camp offered free consultations, screenings and basic diagnostics across several disciplines. Services included general health check-ups, diabetes screening, ENT, ophthalmology, dental care, cardiology, blood donation awareness and preventive healthcare.

The initiative underscored a shared commitment to accessible healthcare and early detection, benefiting employees, local residents and surrounding rural communities. It highlighted the impact of collaboration between industry, Rotary and healthcare institutions in strengthening community well-being.

Bhagat Singh Charitable Trust Marks Vajpayee Birth Anniversary with Helmet Drive

CHIKKABALLAPUR: The Bhagat Singh Charitable Trust distributed 1,000 helmets to two-wheeler riders on Thursday to promote road safety, marking the birth anniversary of Bharat Ratna Atal Bihari Vajpayee.

The initiative was led by the Trust's Founder President, Sandeep B. Reddy, and featured a large-scale awareness bike rally across key locations, including B.B. Road and M.G. Road. The programme was conducted with the support of the local traffic police, who assisted in ensuring smooth coordination and public outreach.

Addressing participants near the Reliance Petrol Bunk, Reddy urged citizens to value life over the fear of penalties. He stressed that helmets are essential safety measures rather than mere legal requirements. The drive also aimed to encourage compliance with the district's mandatory helmet rule and foster long-term road safety awareness.

Shankar Electricals Honoured at Parthasarathi Suvarna Ratha Mahotsava

The Parthasarathi Suvarna Ratha Mahotsava, held recently at the Sri Krishna Temple in Udupi, marked a moment of pride for Shankar Electricals Services (I) Pvt Ltd. Rajesh Shetty, Chairman and Managing Director of the company, participated in the event in the presence of His Holiness Sri Sri Sugunendra Tirtha Sripadaru of Puthige Matha and His Holiness Sri Subudhendra Tirtha Sripadaru of Mantralaya Matha.

Bengaluru Runner Completes 365 Consecutive Half Marathons in a Year

Bengaluru-based running enthusiast Rohith Maiya has completed an extraordinary endurance feat by running 365 consecutive half marathons, covering 21.1 km every single day of 2025. Beginning on January 1, he did not miss a day, clocking an astonishing total distance of 7,701.5 km over the year. Global checks suggest fewer than ten such feats have ever been recorded, placing Rohith in an exceptionally rare league.

Supported by Free Runners, a community-based running group near Sankey Tank, his journey highlights discipline, resilience and a lifelong commitment to fitness. Now 50, Rohith has also participated in landmark events including the Mumbai Marathon, Ladakh and Kashmir Marathons, the Pangong Frozen Lake Marathon, and a 50 km ultra run.

Free Runners felicitated him on December 28 at Sankey Tank, celebrating an inspiring milestone in Indian endurance running.

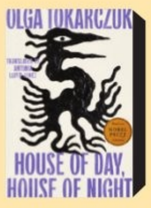
PNB Hosts NRI Meet in Bengaluru to Strengthen Customer Engagement

Punjab National Bank (PNB) organised an NRI Meet in Bengaluru to enhance engagement with its Non-Resident Indian customers and address their evolving banking needs. The event was attended by Vandana Pandey, PNB Zonal Manager, senior bank officials, and a large gathering of NRI customers.

PNB Circle Head Ratish Kumar Singh welcomed the participants and outlined the bank's latest initiatives for the NRI segment, assuring customers of consistent and high-quality service delivery. An interactive session enabled attendees to share feedback and seek clarity on various banking products and services.

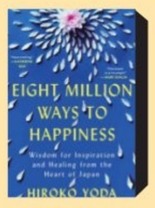
Bank officials highlighted PNB's range of NRI offerings, including NRE and NRO accounts, remittance facilities, investment options and digital banking solutions. Participants appreciated the initiative and expressed interest in more such interactive programmes in the future.

BOOK NOOK



House of Day, House of Night
By Olga Tokarczuk

A woman settles in a remote Polish village where she knows no one. It has few inhabitants, but it teems with the stories of the living and the dead. From the founding of the town to the lives of its saints, these shards piece together not only a history, but a cosmology.

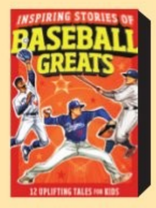


Eight Million Ways to Happiness
By Hiroko Yoda

A Japanese cultural historian shares a path to joyful living drawn from her nation's unique approach to spirituality and nature, blending memoir, cultural reporting and guidance.

Stranger Things: One Way or Another
By Caitlin Schneiderhan

Following the events of *Stranger Things: Season 4*, Nancy Wheeler and Robin Buckley are hot on the heels of a new mystery – and they won't stop until they solve it.



Inspiring Stories of Baseball Greats
By Skyler Trepel

This book showcases baseball's trailblazing players, iconic teams, and heartwarming stories, making it the perfect gift for kids who can't get enough of the game.

LIGHTS, CAMERA, SMILE!

A couple strikes a pose for a selfie against the backdrop of the India Light Festival installations at Phoenix Mall of Asia, Yelahanka | KEVIN NASHON

QUICKFIX

EGG-IZZA

INGREDIENTS

- **Wheat bread:** Cut into 5 triangles
- **Eggs:** 2
- **Tandoori mayonnaise:** 2 tbsp
- **Red and yellow bell peppers:** Half of each, diced
- **Capsicum:** Half, diced
- **Onion:** half, diced
- **Chilli flakes, oregano, and salt to taste**
- **Cheese:** 1 small cube, grated
- **Butter:** 1 tsp

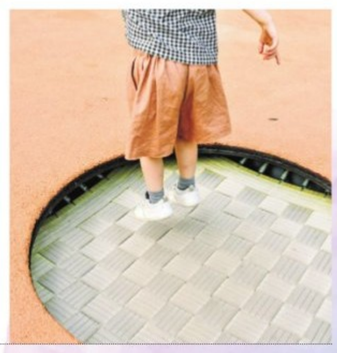
METHOD

- Lather a non stick tawa with butter, place the bread slices on it to form a circle, leaving gaps in between.
- Crack open the eggs, add salt, and beat them in a dish. Pour the egg mixture into the gaps and atop the bread on the tawa.
- Let it cook for a minute in low flame and turn it over.
- Apply a generous amount of tandoori mayo and add the vegetables.
- Top it off with chilli flakes, oregano and cheese.
- Cover and cook on low flame until the cheese melts and serve hot.

Contributed by **Nidharshana,** Chennai

WHATWHENWHYWHERE

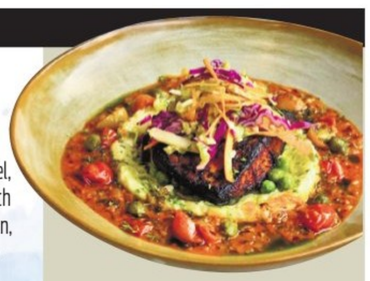
Jump Around



Turn the winter break into a high-energy outing at an indoor trampoline and games park packed with wall-to-wall fun. From free jumping and foam pits to VR games and kid-friendly zones, this carnival-style offer is ideal for families and groups.

WHEN: December 30, 10.30am onwards
WHERE: SkyJumper Trampoline Park, Garuda Mall, Magrath Road
CALL: 080 7182 0500

Time Travel



Catch a big-screen screening of the cult classic *Back to the Future*, where time travel, teen angst and '80s nostalgia collide. Watch Marty McFly race against time in a DeLorean, followed by an open discussion for those who want to stay back and talk films.

WHEN: December 30, 7.45pm
WHERE: Underline Center, Indiranagar
DETAILS: underline.center

Winter Soiree

Set aside a slow afternoon for a festive dining experience built around a six-course Christmas menu. Thoughtfully plated dishes, seasonal beverages, and a live performance come together in an intimate setting designed for lingering conversations and celebratory meals.

WHEN: December 30, 11am onwards
WHERE: Vanamo, Indiranagar
DETAILS: district.in

Sweet Moments

Spend an easy evening learning how to make your own chocolates from scratch in a relaxed, hands-on session. From melting cocoa to mixing flavours, this experience is all about slowing down, getting creative, and taking home treats you've made yourself.

WHEN: December 30, 7.30pm onwards
WHERE: Fabrizo – Creative Activity Hub, BTM Layout
DETAILS: bookmyshow.com

Record Break

Enjoy an intimate, vinyl-focused listening experience and a curated bar that celebrates sound, beer, and food in a calm, analogue-tuned setting. The space pairs curated records with a laid-back bar setting, making it an easy spot to drop in and unwind over sound and conversation.

WHEN: December 30, 6pm onwards
WHERE: Middle Room, Shanti Nagar
DETAILS: urbanaut.app

Clay & Play

Get hands-on with air-dry clay workshop, where you'll design your own clay coaster. From patterns to colours, the session walks you through each step, making it easy, functional and personal. **WHEN:** December 30, 2pm

WHERE: Thirdspace – Art Café & Community, Hosur Main Road
CALL: 97394 79209

Rooted Rhythm

Join an evening of classical arts as students of Kaladeepti Performing Arts Center present Kalakrithi, its annual cultural showcase. The event will showcase Bharatanatyam and Carnatic performances graced by chief guests Vasundhara Doraswamy, Gaurish Akki and others.

WHEN: December 30, 5pm
WHERE: Kalagrama, Jnanabharathi
CALL: 080 2222 1271

NOWSTREAMING

REGIONAL

MIDDLE CLASS (Tamil)

Karl Marx dreams of owning a farm while living a routine life with his vocal wife and kids. When his chance finally arrives, pressure and chaos send him on a desperate rush to transform his future.

Cast: Munishkanth, Kaali Venkat, Radha Ravi

- **Watch on:** ZEE5

ANDHRA KING TALUKA (Telugu)

Sagar is an ardent fan whose life, relationships, and identity revolve around his admiration for his cinematic idol, "Andhra King" Surya Kumar.

Cast: Ram Pothineni, Bhagyashri Borse, Murali Sharma

- **Watch on:** Netflix

FOREIGN

THE COPENHAGEN TEST
(English, series)

A first-generation analyst realises his brain's hacked, allowing access to his senses. Stuck between the agency and hackers, he acts normal to reveal the culprits.

Cast: Simu Liu, Sara Amini, Marnie McPhail

- **Watch on:** JioHotstar

SUBSCRIPTION

Netflix :	₹ 199/month
Prime Video:	₹ 299/month
Jio Cinema:	₹ 999/year
Disney+ Hotstar:	₹ 899/year
Zee5 :	₹ 699/year
Viki Rakuten:	₹ 299/month
Aha:	₹ 699/year
SonyLIV:	₹ 299/month

EXPRESS CONNECT

HAVE A RECIPE OR ART WORK TO SHARE, OR A QUESTION TO ASK?

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FITBIT

HOW TO BALANCE FITNESS WITH A BUSY LIFESTYLE: PRACTICAL TIPS FOR WOMEN

For many women today, fitness often slips down the priority list. Work deadlines, family responsibilities, social commitments, and mental load can leave little time or energy for structured exercise. The result is not lack of motivation, but lack of time. The good news is that staying fit does not require long gym sessions or rigid routines. With a few thoughtful adjustments, fitness can fit naturally into even the busiest schedules.

MAKE MOVEMENT PART OF YOUR DAY

The most effective fitness routine is the one you can stick to. Instead of waiting for a 'free' hour, schedule short workouts like you would a meeting. Even 20 to 30 minutes a day is enough to maintain strength, flexibility, and energy. Morning stretches, quick home workouts, or a brisk evening walk, all count. Consistency matters far more than duration.

START SMALL AND BUILD GRADUALLY

Many women abandon fitness because they aim too high too soon. Begin with achievable goals, such as a 15-minute walk or a short bodyweight routine. As the habit settles in, intensity and time can increase naturally. Small, regular efforts are far more sustainable than occasional intense workouts.

USE EVERYDAY MOMENTS WISELY

Movement does not have to be confined to workout time. Walking during phone calls, taking the stairs, stretching between tasks, or doing simple exercises while waiting for meals to cook all add up. These small bursts of activity improve circulation, reduce stiffness, and boost energy levels.

FUEL YOUR BODY SMARTLY

Fitness is closely linked to nutrition. Eating well does not require elaborate cooking. Simple meal prep, balanced snacks, and regular hydration support energy and recovery. Prioritise whole foods, adequate protein, fruits, vegetables, and healthy fats. Skipping meals often leads to fatigue and poor workout consistency.

CHOOSE ACTIVITIES YOU ENJOY

Fitness should feel rewarding, not punishing. Whether it's yoga, dance, Pilates, strength training, or online workouts, enjoyment increases consistency. When movement feels good, it becomes a habit rather than a task.

Balancing fitness with a busy life is not about perfection but making realistic choices that support your health. Even small amounts of daily movement can improve strength, mood and resilience.

By Dhruva Sivakumar, fitness expert, cult – a fitness and wellness platform

ARTCORNER

HERITAGE

Artist Kaushik Raha's artworks make a correlation between his surroundings and his paintings, inspiring each other

Photos: Shekhar Yadav

A MUSEUM OF MEMORIES

A chair from Goa, Tanjore paintings, broken pieces of a haveli remodelled into decor pieces – Upasana Sharma's **Delhi** home is unapologetically maximalist

SRESHTHA SARKAR

A great room is one that holds a thousand memories," says Upasana Sharma, a mother and social worker, as we walk into her home in Gurugram. It's a home transformed into a mini museum with artefacts, antique furniture and collectibles from around the world. Be it a British-era shelf or an old Indian barrel – every piece adds to the mood of the space.

Colour drenching (a technique where a single colour is used to paint everything in a room) was one of the core interior trends of 2025, with maximalism back in the reckoning. Sharma's living room is reflective of this long before it was a thing. Warm lights in huge modern chandeliers, a maroon canvas as a backdrop for the sofa and ceramics and art from renowned artists form a bit of the living room.

For Sharma, minimalism means a lack of personal style. The chairs are from Goa, the table is from a British-era collection, and the barrel-turned-bar is another antique. Breaking the monotone of brown and maroon stand her green indoor plants, old photographs of Delhi and her son's artworks in canvases of all sizes. A wall with pictures of Hindu gods, Tanjore paintings, calendar-like frames and Japanese tile work are her favourite parts. The images of gods and temple architecture attract her a lot; however, thanks to her son, she started perceiving art in every form. "I was not a fan of abstract works; I felt they did not mean anything. The details of vintage pieces attracted me; anything that's old was precious. But he made me realise that beauty can be in all forms of art," she says.

Down the lane

Sharma has preserved her son's infant cot as a table. Her grandmother's heritage, a hamam, finds a corner spot. Broken pieces of a haveli that would otherwise be trashed are restored and added to the living room.

A wall towards the stairs cherishes her family history in black and white photo frames. From grandmother's wedding to her husband's childhood pictures – each holds a moment together.

Clutter, declutter – just words

The living area is full of objects collected over 20 years. Sharma says she has never hired an interior designer because she believes a house should reflect the people living in it. "I started being this woman much before my wedding. My mother had great taste. She always kept her home in the most beautiful way possible. I inherited that," she says.

After her marriage, Sharma and her spouse travelled everywhere their jobs took them – Bengaluru, Singapore and now Delhi NCR – but the house always looked the same. She has always been house-proud. "After all, you spend most of your time there. No matter where I stayed or where I travelled, I always visited antique shops to collect the best vintage pieces for the house. Be it ceramic plates from Holland, the yalaa from Kerala or pine fruits from Himachal, it's all mix and match." Too many things would look cluttered to anyone, but her son helped her redo, replace and rethink the items' placement.

Warm lights, cosy corners

As we walk up towards her bedroom, it's a game of light and air passing through huge windows. Whites and greens, in pieces, complement the lavender walls that hold her son's nursery-time paintings. Sharma says she relives his childhood through the paintings. Those paintings, along with all the objects collected in the home, become a souvenir of the life lived.

DESIGN STORY

YEAR-END GUIDE TO DECLUTTERING

Neeta Jessani
A designer and lover of textures making functional spaces aesthetic.

AFTER holidays, our homes are usually flooded with décor, gifts, and twinkling lights. Yet the urge to have a clutter-free space to start the year fresh is undeniable. Here is a guide to making your space New Year ready!

Letting go

This is easier said than done, but works wonders. It's not just about letting go of items but also about making room for things in the future that could bring joy. We store piles of objects hoping to use them later. The more we dive into letting materialistic items go, the lesser we purchase. This helps with shifting into wanting less.

Don't skip the walls

When it comes to clearing or organising spaces, we usually focus on storage spaces, but walls hold clutter too. That paintings or photographs that reminds you of a time you would rather forget? Change them. By decluttering walls, visually, a lot of breathable space is created and helps create spaces that evolve with you.

Minimalistic approach

A minimalistic approach helps regulate the mind. Aside from buying minimal holiday décor, this philosophy should be applied to daily life. It helps remove items that add weight, not cheerfulness, and is a great way to make your spaces feel lighter.

For breathing room

A sense of order is akin to new beginnings, and the spaces we live in are key to our well-being. Start by limiting the number of decorations. Opt for pieces that complement the space and don't overwhelm it. Do not fill storage to its maximum capacity and leave room for the years to bring more memories to cherish. Opt for the 'one item in, one item out' rule to keep things in check.

Strategies to declutter

The easiest approach is to declutter room-wise. Take it one step at a time. Empty every closet or shelf you are working with, and divide them into three piles – keep, donate, and discard. Don't be lenient about this. If something hasn't been used in the past year, it does not have a purpose, clearly!

With the year coming to an end, and more time spent at home, your spaces should reflect the year's experiences. The goal is not to fill the void that is left by the items removed, but to embrace the openness and potential they reveal. Have a happy and clean New Year!

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Knowledge of Tally, Excel & M.S Office
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info@behlconstruction.com
8123243297

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TARGET ORIENTED
SALES EXECUTIVE
with Min 3yrs Exp.
2 Wheeler, Good English, Comp. Big Incentives.
+Salary 15000/- To 18000/-
info@behlinnov.com
8123243297

THE NEW INDIAN EXPRESS **CLASSIFIEDS**

PUBLIC NOTICE
CHANGE OF NAME

AFFIDAVIT
We, **Sri TEJESH G.**, Aged about 41 years, S/o. Late Guruvaiah and **Smt. POOLAN K.S.**, Aged about 35 years, W/o. Sri Tejesh G, Both residing at No.47, Ground Floor, 2nd Cross, 10th Main Road, Mathikere, Bangalore -560 054. do hereby declare that I have changed Our Daughter name from **HUEMISHA T.** to **AYRA T.** vide Affidavit dated: 06.08.2025, sworn to before Mrs. Chandrakala Advocate and Notary Public Govt. of Karnataka, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, Mrs. **A GEETHA**, aged about 55 years, W/o. G RAVIKIRAN, residing at N7162, 7th Tower, Norwood, Prestige Sunrise Park, Neo Town Toad, Electronics City Phase 1, Bengaluru, Karnataka-560100, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **GEETHA A** to **A GEETHA,** vide affidavit dated 29.12.2025, sworn to before S.N. Madhu, Advocate & Notary Public, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **KALA JITENDRA KUMAR** (Old name), aged about 50 Years W/o Sri **Jitendra Bhandari** Residing at No. 4/6, 5th Main Road, 4th Block, Jayanagar, Bengaluru have changed my name to **KALA JITENDRA BHANDARI** (new name) vide affidavit dated: 29/12/2025 Before Notary **Mohammed Hussain.K** Bangalore

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **INDU PRIYA P**, D/o Palani, age 27 years, R/at No. 18, 5th Cross, 6th Block, Dr. Rajkumar Road, Rajajinagar, Bengaluru, Karnataka-560 010 do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **INDUPRIYA** to **INDU PRIYA P**, henceforth I shall be known and called as **INDU PRIYA P** for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 18th Dec. 2025, sworn before Advocate and Notary **L. VEENA** at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, VINODINI.P W/o Vinod Kumar.H.M, aged about 41 years, residing at No.783, 14th Main, 5th B Cross, Behind Smart Shop, MEI Layout, Bagalagunte, Nagasandra, Bangalore - 560073, have changed my minor daughter's name from **ROSHIKA VINOD KUMAR** to **ROSHIKA.V,** vide affidavit dated 14/8/2025 sworn to before Prakasha C Advocate and Notary Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
We 1) **SUREKHA RAMESH MADLAGERI** W/o Ramesh, age 41 years, and 2) **RAMESH ANDAPPA MADLAGERI,** S/o Andappa Madlageri, age 50 years, both R/at D-715, Aratt primier Apartment, Graphite Signal. Opp. IFB, Hoodi, Bengaluru North, Mahadevapura, Bengaluru-560 048 do hereby declare that now we have changed our son's name from **ADITYA RAMESH** to **ADITYA,** henceforth he shall be known and called as **ADITYA** for passport and all purposes, vide affidavit dated 19th Dec. 2025, sworn before Advocate and Notary **K.N. RAMADEVI** at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, (OLD NAME) FATHIMA BAI ABDUL RASHEED, Residing at No. 5 FRF 02, 12th B Cross, 4th Floor, Abda Apartment, Bible Church Opp, 3rd Stage, Pillanna Garden Arabic College Post, Bengaluru 560045, have changed my name from **(OLD NAME) FATHIMA BAI ABDUL RASHEED to (NEW NAME) FAZILA OOSMAN** vide affidavit dated 29.12.2025 sworn before Notary Sivakumara.M.N., Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, SERVICE, NO.15322843Y, HAV, SALAI MANI MARAN, Residing at Samman Kuttai (Vill), Mel Moiyl (Post), Katpadi (TK), Vellore (District), TAMIL NADU (State), PIN: 632203, Have Changed My **(OLD NAME) SALAI MANI MARAN** to **(NEW NAME) M SALAI MANI MARAN** Vide Affidavit Dated 25.11.2025 Sworn Before Notary MEER HASSAN BANGALORE

AFFIDAVIT
I, **K SHEELA @ KADATI SHEELA @ SHEELA E**, aged about 39 years, W/o. K. Hari, D/o. Late Reddy E M, residing at No. 158, 20th 'B' Cross, Sarvagnya Road, Mico Layout, Hongasandra, Begur Main Road, Bengaluru-560068, do hereby declare that the name of **K SHEELA, KADATI SHEELA** and **SHEELA E,** belongs to one and the same person, vide affidavit dated 29.12.2025, sworn to before Dharani .P, Advocate & Notary Public, Govt. of India, Bengluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **KOMAL KUMARI** aged about 33 years, D/o Sri. Pukraj A Bafna & Late. Manju D, W/o Mr. Ashok Kumar A Jain resident of No.15, 2nd Main Road, Subbanna Garden, Vijayanagar, Bangalore North, Bengaluru - 560040, Karnataka, India, do hereby solemnly declare that I have changed my name from **KOMAL KUMARI P JAIN** to **KOMAL KUMARI**, vide affidavit dated 29.12.2025 sworn to before Advocate and Notary **H S Sakalesh Aradhya**, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **PAULRAJU RAJU** S/o Late Susainathan Raju, aged 59 years, No.18, 1st Cross, 2nd Main Road, Near Shine Bakery, Ejipura, Bangalore-560047 have changed my name to **R PAUL RAJ**, vide affidavit dt.29/12/2025 before Notary **Gangaraju.B.N**, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **HARIDASS SAMPATH**, S/o Sampath, age 60 years, R/at No. 49, 4th Cross, 2nd Main, Balaji Nagar, Near Lakshmi Theatre, Dharmaram College, Bengaluru-560 029 do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **HARIDASS SAMBATH** to **HARIDASS SAMPATH**, henceforth I shall be known and called as **HARIDASS SAMPATH** for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 29th Dec. 2025, sworn before Advocate and Notary **GANGARAJU .B.N.** at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **K KALEEM,** S/o. Khayum Sab, residing at #157/15, 30th A Cross, BTB Area,Tilak Nagar, Jayanagar, Bengaluru 560041, declare that all the names **K KALEEM, KALEEM KHAYAM SAB** and **KHALIM** pertains to one and the same person i.e., myself vide Affidavit dated: 29/12/2025, sworn before Notary **L.GOPALAKRISHNA**, Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, (OLD NAME) KHUSHBOO AGARWAL W/o Raman Kumar Jain, Residing at No. 19, Vidya Residency, 6th Main, 5th Stage, 1st Phase, Rajarajeshwarinagar, Bengaluru - 560098, have changed my name from **(OLD NAME) KHUSHBOO AGARWAL to (NEW NAME) KHUSHBOO JAIN** vide affidavit dated 23.12.2025 sworn before Notary H.R.Karunakara., Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, (OLD NAME) **NANDINI,** mother of NO.JC-310916F, SUB, ANIL D, Residing at Kochupathichira, Karumady (Post), Ambalapuzha (Vill), Alappuzha (Dist), KERALA (State), PIN: 688561, Have Changed My Name to **(NEW NAME) NANDHINI** And **DOB** from **01.07.1953** to **01.01.1948** Vide Affidavit Dated 24.12.2025 Sworn Before Notary MEER HASSAN BANGALORE

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **Kiran Kumar G.M**, resident of S/o. Mahadevappa G H, House No. 13, Gyarahalli Village, Muttugaduru Post, Holalkere Taluk, Gyarehalli, BN Durga, Chitradurga Dist., Pin-577518, do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **Kiranakumar G.M.** to **Kiran Kumar G.M**, vide affidavit dated 27.12.2025, sworn to before Mohan Kumar .N, Advocate & Notary Public, Govt. of India, Bengaluru.

AFFIDAVIT
I, **CHANDRAHASA UDYAWAR GUTHU RAI,** residing at No 45, Sri Vinayaka Layout, 1st Stage, Off Magadi Road, Basaveshwaranagar, Bangalore-560079, have corrected my name as **CHANDRAHASA RAI** and my Spouse name as **MRIDULA RAI** in my passport vide Affidavit dated 26/12/2025 before Notary **C S Srinivasa** Bengaluru.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, SAARIKADEEP I V, Aged about 27 years, W/o Jampana Sriram Pardhu, Residing at No.24, Near Nitte Meenakshi College, Manchanahalli Village, Bengaluru - 560063, have changed my name from **SAARIKADEEP I V** to **SAARIKADEEP JAMPANA,** vide affidavit dated 29/12/2025 sworn to before S R Ravikumar Advocate and Notary Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
We, DAMODHARA & MALLIKA U, both are residing at Flat No.302, Sai Comfort, Sy. No.25 26, 1st Cross Road, 2nd Main Road, Kothanur Dinne Main Road, Vasantha Vallabha Nagar, J.P. Nagar 8th Phase, Bangalore - 560078, have changed our minor daughter's name from **ADHVIKA .D** to **CHATHURVI DAMODHARA,** vide affidavit dated 19/12/2025 sworn to before Ambreshappa Advocate and Notary Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **GIRISH JAYANNA KUMKUMANAHALLI**, R/o No. 13, Andrahalli Main Road, Basaveshwara Badavane, Bangalore-560 091 do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **GIRISHA KUMKUMANAHALLI JAYANA** to **GIRISH JAYANNA KUMKUMANAHALLI**, henceforth I shall be known and called as **GIRISH JAYANNA KUMKUMANAHALLI** for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 29-12-2025, sworn before Advocate and Notary **G. DAYANANDA** at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, (OLD NAME) MANJUNATH HUGAR S/o Gurunath Bhimanna Hugar, Residing at No. Khanadal, Farhathabad Hobli, Gulbarga Tq, Kalaburagi-585102, have changed my name from **(OLD NAME) MANJUNATH HUGAR to (NEW NAME) MANJUNATH GURUNATH HUGAR** vide affidavit dated 26.12.2025 sworn before Notary H.R.Karunakara., Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, MARY A K (New Name), aged about 41 years, D/o. Ranganath alias Anthony, residing at No.208, Marenahalli Kere Tank Bund Road, 7th Main, 5th Block, 5th Cross, Jayanagar, Bangalore –560041, Karnataka, India, I am also known, called, recognized in the names of MARY A K and KOLANDAIMARY, both this names refers to one and the same person i.e. myself only, vide affidavit dated 18/12/2025, before Notary MOHAMMED HUSSAIN K, Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **GURUPRASAD PUROHIT** S/o. **Pramod/Pramod Purohit**, Residing at No 109, HILLS VIEW MEADOWS, BSK 6TH STAGE, BHARATH HOUSING SOCIETY, BENGALURU 560061, have changed my name to **GURUPRASAD P PUROHIT (P-PRAMOD),** vide affidavit dated: 29/12/2025 Before Notary **K.V.Mani** Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **AMANULLA KHAN,** age 56 years, S/o Noor Khan, R/at No. 71, Baba Lane, Opp. Veternary Hospital, Mysore Road, Bangalore-560 002 do hereby declare that my correct name is **AMANULLA KHAN,** and the same is mentioned in Aadhar Card, Pan Card, Bank Account and Ration Card, but in my Passport, my name is wrongly mentioned as **AMANULLA** instead of **AMANULLA KHAN,** vide affidavit dated 29th Dec. 2025, sworn before Advocate and Notary **MAMATHA .N.K** at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **DEVARAJU,** S/o late Sannaiah, age 50 years, R/at No. 12, 106/26, 3rd Floor, 4th Cross, 6th Main, Bhovi Colony, Suddaguntepalya, Tavarekere, Bangalore-560 029 do hereby declare that my actual and original name is **DEVARAJU,** now I have changed my name to **BORAIAH DEVARAJU,** henceforth I shall be known and called as **BORAIAH DEVARAJU** for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 29-12-2025, sworn before Advocate and Notary **LAKSHMAIAH** at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **SHIVASHANKARA**, s/o Ramachandraiah .T.L, age 78 years, R/at No. 1468, Surabhi, E-block, 3rd Main, A.E.C.S. Layout, Kundalahalli, Bengaluru East, Bengaluru-560 037 do hereby declare that I have changed my name from **SHIVASHANKAR** to **SHIVASHANKARA,** henceforth I shall be known and called as **SHIVASHANKARA** for all purposes, vide affidavit dated 29th Dec. 2025, sworn before Advocate and Notary **Gangaraju .B.N** at Bangalore.

AFFIDAVIT
I, KALAVATHY SHIVARAJAN, Aged about 47 years, D/O Shivarajan, Residing at Villa No. 53, Pushpalok, Kagganur Village, Bagalur Checkpost, Sevaganapalli, Krishnagiri Dist, Tamil Nadu-635103, hereby declare that my names **KALAVATHY SHIVA** and **KALAVATHY SHIVARAJAN** belongs to me only, and both name belongs to one and the same person. My Surname is **SHIVARAJAN** instead of SHIVA, and my father's name is **SHIVARAJAN** instead of **RAJAN.** Vide affidavit dated 29-12-2025 sworn before advocate and notary H.G. Venkataramu, Bengaluru

CHANGE OF NAME
I, (OLD NAME) VINAYAKUMAR BIDADI CHANDRASHEKAR, S/O Bidadi Veerashettappa Chandrashekara, Residing at No 136/1, 8th Cross Road, Yogeshwara Layout, Bidadi, Ramanagara-562109, have changed my name from **(OLD NAME) VINAYAKUMAR BIDADI CHANDRASHEKAR to (NEW NAME) VINAY KUMAR BIDADI CHANDRASHEKAR** vide affidavit dated 28.12.2025 sworn before Notary H.R.Karunakara., Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, SERVICE NO.JC-806052N, SUB, KAMBALA MALLIKARJUNA, Residing at House NO.43/56-1-1-1, Prakash Nagar, Revenue Ward NO.43, Sachivalayam Street, Kadapa (Dist), ANDHRA PRADESH (State), PIN: 516001, Have Changed My Son **(OLD NAME) K VENKATA SIVA SAI RAM** to **(NEW NAME) KAMBALA VENKATA SIVA SAI RAM** And DAUGHTER **(OLD NAME) K SAI NIKHITHA** to **(NEW NAME) KAMBALA SAI NIKHITHA** Vide Affidavit Dated 26.12.2025 Sworn Before Notary MEER HASSAN BANGALORE

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **JITENDRA KUMAR** (Old Name) S/o Sri **Manoharmal Bhandari** aged about 52 years Residing at No. 4/6, 5th Main Road, 4h Block, Jayanagar, Bengaluru: 560011 have changed my name to **JITENDRA BHANDARI** (new name) vide affidavit dated: 29/12/2025 Before Notary **Mohammed Hussain.K** Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **SHIVA KUMAR,** S/o Rajashekar, age 33 years, R/at No. 339, Ground Floor, 6th A Cross, 28th A Main, BTM 2nd Stage, Bangalore-560 076 do hereby declare that as I am renewing my expired passport, want to include my father name **RAJASHEKAR**, vide affidavit dated 18th Dec. 2025, sworn before Advocate and Notary **GANESH GOWDA .M.V** at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, **VINODA.N,** (Old Name) S/o NAGARAJU, Aged about 35 years, Resident at NO.247, HENNUR MAIN ROAD, BEHIND ST. ANTHONYCHURCH, A.K.COLONY, KACHARAKANAHLLI, BENGALURU NORTH,BENGALURU-560084 have changed my name to **VINOD.N.** (New Name) vide Affidavit Dated 29-12-2025 Before notary **C.V. EARAPPA,** Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
We 1) **SUREKHA RAMESH MADLAGERI** W/o Ramesh, age 41 years, and 2) **RAMESH ANDAPPA MADLAGERI,** S/o Andappa Madlageri, age 50 years, both R/at D-715, Aratt primier Apartment, Graphite Signal. Opp. IFB, Hoodi, Bengaluru North, Mahadevapura, Bengaluru-560 048 do hereby declare that we have changed our son's name from **ARNAV RAMESH** to **ARNAV,** henceforth he shall be known and called as **ARNAV** for passport and all purposes, vide affidavit dated 19th Dec. 2025, sworn before Advocate and Notary **K.N. RAMADEVI** at Bangalore.

CHANGE OF NAME
I, RAJESHWARI GIRISH BORKAR, residing at # 526, 2nd Floor, 8th Cross, 28 Main Road, near Serene Boutique Hotel, HSR Layout, Sector-1, Bangalore-560102, have changed my name to **RAJESHWARI RAMESH HALDONKAR** Vide affidavit dated 29-12-2025 sworn before advocate and notary H.G. Venkataramu, Bengaluru

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KEVIN LUKE'S *K-POP* DEALS WITH BTS AND POP CULTURE CLASH

Kevin Luke's new film brings action, fantasy, and pop culture together in a story and stars Garuda Ram in the principal cast

A SHARADHAA

SOCIAL media is abuzz with excitement over the title announcement of *K-POP* – The Epic Battle. The first glimpse offered a peek at the film that combines action, fantasy, and global pop culture. Produced by Alagani Kiran Kumar under Alagani Movies, the film is both written and directed by newcomer Kevin Luke, who aims to deliver something bold and entertaining.

Kevin Luke says, "The teaser is just a peek into the world of K-POP. We wanted to show an epic clash between the BTS Army and their haters. The idea is to create a story for people of all ages, with stylised action at the same time, in a world that feels real."

Garuda Ram, who has been part of *KGF* and a few other films, shares his excitement: "While Korean pop culture inspired the story, the K in the title also stands for Kannada. The film is being made in Kannada and Telugu. Kevin is a newcomer but a sensible director. This will be a complete entertainer. Today, people are mesmerised by BTS, and Kevin has woven a story that connects pop culture with a meaningful message. I play a modern Yama Dharma Raja, and more will be revealed soon."

The film also introduces Vishnu Oi of *Mad Square* and debutant Sanjay in important roles. Sanjay adds, "My brother is backing this project. I've given everything—from college-boy antics to my first big-screen performance. I can't wait for audiences to see this story come alive."

A strong technical team is supporting the film behind the scenes. Rajkanth handles cinematography, Shashidhar P edits, Pranav Muniraj composes the music, and Arjun Raj, known for Kantara, oversees the action sequences. VFX is led by EggWhite VFX from Kerala, supported by teams from the USA, Europe, and Thailand. Kevin shares, "We shot four days with over 150 crew members. The VFX for the promo alone took six months. The full shoot will span 60–65 days with five to six songs."

Co-writer and co-director Lavanya L, a BTS Army member, explains, "During COVID, I was inspired by countless BTS videos. That energy and passion shaped the way we told this story."

Producer Alagani Kiran Kumar says, "Kevin's vision captivated me from the start. The lead actor has always dreamed of this role, and I am proud to support him. Filming will happen simultaneously in Kannada and Telugu in a few months."

K-POP – The Epic Battle is set to hit theatres in 2026, and hopes for a fresh take on pop culture for audiences everywhere.

Kevin Luke and Alagani Kirankumar

Garuda Ram

I always wanted a song for myself: Sangeethaa Sringeri

Sangeethaa Sringeri talks about her first joyous pop-vibe single, *Achoo!*, also starring Kiyara

CE FEATURES

SANGEETHAA Sringeri, the actor who began her journey alongside Rakshit Shetty in *777 Charlie* (2022), followed it up with *Lucky* (2023) and *Marigold* (2024), and later made her presence felt on *Bigg Boss* Kannada Season 10. Two years on, she returns to the screen in a new space, marking her first-ever video single song appearance, *Achoo!* and she admits the timing feels just right.

"I always felt I had a song waiting for me, something dedicated," Sangeethaa says, describing the experience as a quiet, personal celebration. "It didn't feel rushed or planned. It came when it had to." The song found her towards the end of November, when choreographer Tharak reached out with the idea of an album pop song. What stayed with her, even before the music, was the role itself. "He asked me to play the elder version of his daughter, Kiyara. A dad seeing me as his daughter's elder version was the first thing that touched me," she shares.

As the narration unfolded, the connection grew deeper. The song traces the dream of a little girl who wants to become a pop star. "As a child, I dreamt of the same thing. I grew up watching *Hannah Montana* (Miley Cyrus), imagining myself on a stage. So this story felt very close to me."

What made it even more special was the emotion behind it. "It's a father dreaming big for his daughter. And when that father is Tharak Master, a name every household connects with dance, I knew I had to be part of it."

The visual world of the song came together with equal care. Stylist Laxmi Krishna brought in pop-ready, picture-perfect outfits for both Sangeethaa Sringeri and Kiyara Tharak. "The styling really helped shape the pop icon feel," she notes. Cinematographer Sanket frames her with ease, while Abhishek Mathad's choreography keeps the energy light, clean, and catchy. "The hook steps were simple, fun, and felt natural," MC Bijju's lyrics and performance, paired with Suraj Jois's upbeat music, gives the song its playful lift."

Sangeetha Sringeri

The video is titlted *A Baby Girl's Dream*. A fantasy where every sneeze makes the world bigger and brighter. Toys turn into instruments, a nursery becomes a stage, and imagination takes over, inspired by the spirit of Michael Jackson.

For Sangeethaa, the song is also a reflection. "This is how my fans see me," she says. With her next project nearing completion, dubbing underway and plans set for February, this video feels like a gentle pause. "I wanted to give something back to my fans," she smiles. "This song is a small gift of love as we step into a new year."

A still from the film

Love You Muddu gets an OTT release

CE FEATURES

SOME love stories do not seek attention. They simply exist, shaped by real moments and quiet choices. *Love You Muddu* belongs to that category. The announcement of the film's arrival on OTT brings a smile to the face and a call to join the journey.

The Kannada film is now streaming on Amazon Prime Video. Directed by Kumar, known for Chemistry of Kariyappa, the film stars Siddu Moolimani and Reshma in the lead. Inspired by a true love story from Maharashtra, the film stays close to its roots, choosing simplicity in both form and emotion. Sharing the news of the OTT release, Siddu Moolimani wrote on Instagram: "From tiny hands to big hearts. *Love You Muddu* is now streaming on Amazon Prime in 6 dubbed languages. Wherever you are, love speaks your language."

The line reflects the film's intent. Now available in six dubbed languages, the story finds new audiences without altering its emotional centre. Released in theatres on November 7, *Love You Muddu* found appreciation for its calm narrative and honest treatment. Siddu approaches his role with restraint, while Reshma brings a quiet confidence that keeps the relationship believable. Their scenes together rely more on pauses and glances than dramatic exchanges.

The supporting cast of the film, produced by Kishan TN under the Kishan Entertainment banner, includes Rajesh Nataranga, Girish Shivanna, Tabla Nani, Srivatsa, Apoorva, and Usha, all of whom add to the film's emotional fabric. Aniruddha Shastry's music stays gentle and unobtrusive. The film is shot across Karkala, Kumta, and Bengaluru, using real locations that blend naturally into the story.

Based on the lives of Akash Narayanakar and Anjali Shinde, the film follows a newly married couple whose lives take an unexpected turn during a temple visit. The narrative does not rush this moment. Instead, it allows the weight of what follows to unfold gradually.

Jagapathi Babu's *Peddi* look out

CE FEATURES

THE makers of Ram Charan's upcoming film *Peddi* unveiled the character poster of Jagapathi Babu on Monday. The actor, who will play Appalasoori in the film, has gone through a complete changeover in his looks. Jagapathi Babu's other recent on-screen appearances were in films like *Mirai*, *Ghaati*, and *Akhanda 2*.

Directed by Buchi Babu Sana, *Peddi* is billed as a rural sports drama, where cricket plays a major role. Janhvi Kapoor will be seen as the female lead. The ensemble cast also includes notable names like Shivarajkumar and *Mirzapur fame* Divyenndu. R Rathnavelu, who previously helmed cinematography for Devara, is on board for *Peddi*.

Other prominent technicians include National Award-winning editor Navin Nooli and production designer Avinash Kolla. AR Rahman is composing music for the film.

Kantara: Chapter 1 becomes one of Google's top-searched films in 2025

CE FEATURES

AS we near the end of 2025, Google India's Year Ender list revealed a clear trend. Audiences were not searching only for star-driven films. They were looking for stories with strong roots. At the centre of that search was Rishab Shetty's *Kantara: Chapter 1*. The film, which stayed in public discussion throughout the year. From its announcement to its release and the theatrical run, *Kantara Chapter 1* remained on people's minds—and on Google.

Directed by Rishab Shetty, *Kantara: Chapter 1*, produced by Hombale Films did not rely on the success of the earlier film. Instead, it went deeper into its world. The film, headlined by Rishab himself, explored the conflict between Daiva, land, forest, and authority with restraint and clarity. It felt less like a constructed plot and more like a lived memory. Three years of preparation, demanding performances, the use of local language, and respect for traditions helped the film connect strongly with audiences. Starting from Kundapura, coastal Karnataka, and travelling across India, and the world, *Kantara* moved beyond being a regional film and found a wider national audience. This journey travelled made its strong presence on Google's most-searched list for 2025.

Rishab Shetty

The box office numbers supported this interest. *Kantara: Chapter 1* collected over ₹900 plus crore worldwide, placing it among the highest-grossing Indian films of the year. Wider releases, dubbed versions, and holiday screenings played a role, but the main draw was the story itself. Viewers did not stop at watching the film. They discussed it, read about it, and searched for it online.

The 2025 Google search list featured *Saiyaara* at number one, highlighting the rise of new talent. Other films on the list included Rajinikanth's *Coolie*, Hrithik Roshan and Jr NTR's *War 2*, Sanam *Teri Kasam*, Unni Mukundan's *Marco*, *Housefull 5*, Shankar–Ram Charan's *Game Changer*, *Mrs*, and Hombale Films' *Mahavatar Narasimha*. Yet, *Kantara* stood out not just as a popular search, but as a film that shaped the year's conversation.

CE FEATURES

RAKKASAPURADHOL GETS A RELEASE DATE

RAKKASAPURADHOL, featuring Raj B Shetty, is set to hit screens on February 6. The makers announced this with a teaser that sets the mood for the film. We previously reported that Raj plays an inspector in the film. The teaser builds on this idea but goes deeper, showing a man torn between duty and a darker side. This story is unlike a typical police tale; it explores a personal struggle that becomes unsettling.

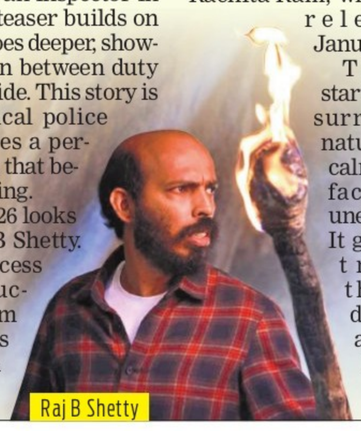
The year 2026 looks busy for Raj B Shetty. After the success of his production, Su From So and 45, he is taking on more projects.

Before *Rakkasapuradhol*, he will also star in Landlord, alongside Duniya Vijay and Rachita Ram, which is set to release in January.

The teaser starts in a village surrounded by nature. It seems calm on the surface but feels uneasy beneath. It gradually introduces themes of death, fear, and belief, hinting at superstition and inner turmoil. Raj's character appears with a strong visual cue—an "evil eye." This image suggests a shift from protector to threat.

The film examines duality. Every person has two sides: one that follows rules and another that questions them. *Rakkasapuradhol* shows what happens when an inspector faces his own darkness.

Rakkasapuradhol is the first production of Ravi Varma and the directorial debut of Ravi Saranga, who has worked with Jogi Prem for many years. Set in and around Kollegala, the film is rooted in a crime backdrop.



Raj B Shetty

Sleeping Dogs finds its director

CE FEATURES

ACTOR Simu Liu had previously announced that he was working on a live-action film adaptation of the popular and critically acclaimed video game *Sleeping Dogs* earlier this year. The film has now found its director. Indonesian filmmaker Timo Tjahjanto has been roped in to direct the movie based on the action-adventure game, confirmed Simu Liu.

The filmmaker is known for his action films such as *May the Devil Take You* (2018), *The Night Comes for Us* (2018), *The Big 4* (2022), and the recent Bob Odenkirk-starrer Nobody 2.

As per the official logline, the series follows "first-generation Chinese-American intelligence analyst Alexander Hale, who realizes his brain has been hacked, giving the perpetrators access to everything he sees and hears.